



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

January 30, 2019

## Jesse Jackson Discusses GM Racial Harassment Incidents



Civil Rights Icon Delights His Toledo Audience

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# Old School and Platinum

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

The Truth Contributor

*I had a heritage, rich and nearer than the tongue which gave it voice. My mind resounded with the words and my blood raced to the rhythms.*

- Maya Angelou



Matthew Boaz is a national leader in diversity, equity and inclusion. Having served most recently as Chief Diversity Officer at Wright State University, Boaz brings with him to Toledo a set of old school values and excellence in creating equity, fairness, justice and equal opportunity in organizational environments.

On February 25, Boaz will become the City of Toledo's new director of Diversity and Inclusion, serving as an important component in Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz's strategic effort to place highly talented and diverse individuals in his senior leadership cabinet.

I spoke with Boaz about his credentials, personal perspective and leadership formation as he prepares to bring his skills to northwest Ohio to assist in helping our city to thrive.

**Perryman:** First of all, welcome to Toledo. I hear that you are from northwest Ohio.

**Boaz:** I'm from a small town called Van Wert, Ohio, a very rural setting between Lima, Ohio and Fort Wayne, Indiana. I was there the first 18 years of my life and I left immediately after high school for the US Navy where I spent four years. Following my four years of service in the Navy, I spent the better part of eight years in Bowling Green obtaining a bachelor and master's degree, and actually in between my undergrad and master's I worked at Lucas County Children Services.

**Perryman:** Really?

**Boaz:** Yes. So, I'm coming back to Toledo, which is not completely unfamiliar territory for me.

**Perryman:** What other areas of the country have you lived?

**Boaz:** After grad school I headed out to work for the federal government on the East Coast in Maryland and then migrated back this way, stopped in Pittsburgh for three years and then I started working in higher education and I started at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and then the University of Cincinnati for a short stint and Wright State University for the last five and a half years.

**Perryman:** Please tell our readers about your experiences working both in higher education and the federal government.

**Boaz:** I started off working for the U.S. Department of Labor doing personnel audits regarding equal employment. That included investigations where there were accusations of discrimination and involved analysis to determine whether or not systemic discrimination had occurred within

a large-scale organization. And then, from there I went into the higher ed and in all three of those universities I worked in, equal employment, equity, diversity and inclusion over the last almost 16 years.

**Perryman:** What did you glean from your experiences performing this work?

**Boaz:** Well, I think more than anything there's a lot to understand about people. When you bring people from diverse backgrounds into an organization and you try to put them in an environment where they'll interact with one another, you have to have some sense of understanding about how to merge those people together and how to get them to work in a coordinated effort to reach an outcome that all of you have as a goal.

And that is not an easy thing to do because everybody brings their own individual experience to a situation, but if you learn to understand people and you understand their desires, their needs, their goals and you can find some common threads amongst them, you can achieve greatness, no matter who those people are.

Now, that's easier said than done. On a daily basis, you have to create an environment through every activity that you involve them and try to be as inclusive as possible to allow everyone to feel like they're part of something bigger than themselves and something that has a goal that's worthwhile to attain. If you can create an environment like that, you can create opportunities to achieve those goals that people have determined are worthwhile personally, then you can have success, but it won't happen overnight and it won't be easy, but it is achievable.

**Perryman:** Let's shift to Matt Boaz, the person. Please describe your overall worldview, including the things that may have contributed to

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## Community Calendar

### February 7

The Appold Planetarium at Lourdes University presents The Birth of Planet Earth: 7 & 8:30 pm: 419-517-8897.

### February 17

Indiana Avenue MBC 73rd Church Anniversary Celebration: 4 pm; "Don't Worry about Anything, Instead Pray About Everything;" Guest speaker Pastor Jerry Boose of Second Baptist

### February 23

Warren AME Gospel Extravaganza: 4 to 7 pm; Welcoming dancers, singers, poets, gospel rap artists: 419-324-4189

### February 24

Indiana Avenue MBC 73rd Church Anniversary Celebration: 4 pm; "Don't Worry about Anything, Instead Pray About Everything;" Guest speaker Pastor WL Perryman of Jerusalem MBC  
Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith, Jr: 4 pm; Guests Bishop Duane Tisdale and Friendship Baptist Church

### March 10

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith, Jr: 4 pm; Guests Pastor Melvin Barnes and the Greater Faith Fellowship Church

### March 17

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith Jr.: 4 pm; Guests Pastor Roger Carson and Southern MBC

### March 24

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith, Jr: 4 pm; Guests Pastor James Willis and St. Paul MBC

### March 31

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith Jr: 4 pm; Guests Pastor Nathan Madison and Fourth Street Baptist Church of Lima, OH

# What You Need to Know About ...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

With the recent media focus on the allegations of racial harassment at the local GM Powertrain plant and my being part of the crowd at the Truth Art Gallery who listened to the commentary of civil rights activist Jesse Jackson, here are some insights or tips regarding fighting racism/sexism in the workplace.

Some of this commentary is from my years filing and fighting such workplace cases and the challenges attendant thereto.

(1) If you are a victim of sexual or racial harassment, you need to find a safe place at the workplace and record (a) what happened (b) who was the aggressor (c) witnesses to the event (d) the time and location of the incident (e) what policy manual your workplace may have in writing regarding your rights to be free from a discriminatory workplace.

(2) You need to immediately make noise and report any and all incidents,

however innocuous you may feel the incident was, to management and file a WRITTEN report. Forget that nonsense of keeping it to yourself or making an oral report.

(3) Find out the locale of the headquarters of the company (if there is one) and send off a signed and dated copy of your complaint. Certified mail only.

(4) File a charge with the local Ohio Civil Rights Commission. The more details the better.

(5) If you are approached by management and they want to "talk" and your shop is a non union shop, you need to have a friendly face with you and/or record the meeting. Do NOT take the "goodwill" of management as a sign that they are in your corner. Do NOT sign any statements until it is reviewed by a lawyer. You do not want sign away important rights while you are in a state of confusion or are angry.

(6) If are in supervision, the same rules apply. Unless you fight for you, "you" will not be afforded fair treatment. Local management does not want to look bad to their superiors

because it gives the impression that they are incompetent and are not doing a proper job of maintaining a discriminatory free work place.

(7) If the incident has caused you mental or emotional turmoil, seek out your doctor or seek a referral to a psychologist, if needed, so that you have medical documentation that the incident was severe enough to cause you to seek out professional help in order to "re-align" yourself after the incident.

(8) Always keep your original records. Only give out copies of your statements (reviewed first by an attorney) to management or the union heads. At this point in time, you are entering an adversarial position and everyone is not your friend.

(9) If anyone has physically assaulted you, immediately file a report with the local police and seek out a prosecutor to present charges against the aggressor(s). Also, if needed to go an ER or see your doctor if you were physically assaulted.

(10) Keep a running diary of each day after the incident because you may face some backlash from management or co workers and you need to document this for future testimony. Why? Because they are beginning to retaliate against you and retaliation is a new and separate offense that you can present.

(11) If the harm done to you is severe, you may want to consider resigning because the workplace is considered hostile and you can no longer properly function in such an en-

vironment. If you do resign, make sure that you detail your reasons in a letter (again, reviewed first by an attorney) sent to both local management and headquarters.

Now, some of my personal commentary on workplace discrimination.

(1) White folks do not like black folks telling on them. They feel that since they are in power and/or are white that they have privileges to do to you as they so desire and you are supposed to smile and take it. Some of that we have labeled "white skin privileges" in which you are not deemed credible or important as white folks when you speak or act.

(2) People of color are at first glance can be deemed suspect as to their testimony since the history of this country has been to label such people as liars who are deemed not worthy of being seen as credible.

The virulent racial history of this country informs us that people of color are expendable and their rights to stand up for themselves are not taken as seriously as a white person.

(3) When fighting charges of sexism or racism, it is also mindful to note that not every incident that you view as being racial or sexual is, in fact, racial or sexual.

Some of it may simply be that your white co workers or white managers are simply inept people who are clueless when it comes to being a fair arbiter of all things racial or sexual.

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*Perryman... continued from page 2*

your philosophy of life.

**Boaz:** I think my overall worldview is created around the idea that every person has value and that we're all on a journey on this earth and that there's no reason why we have to treat people in a way that lacks dignity to be able to coexist. I believe that you treat someone not just the way you want to be treated, but you treat someone the way they want to be treated. It's a difference between a golden rule and a platinum rule, and for me that has always worked.

I encounter people every day that I might have differences of opinion with, but it's that dignity that keeps things from being at a point where we can't deal with one another. I can have a philosophical difference with someone where we have extremely different viewpoints, but still maintain the idea that they deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and get points across. Now, I can observe someone who may differ in opinion from me and will really just outright not agree with me on something, and as long as they treat me with dignity and respect, then we can agree to disagree or we can move on a continuum to a better place, come back and try to work at it again tomorrow and we can continue to work together. That's the key point, but if the dignity is removed then there's nothing else left.

**Perryman:** Do those values of dignity and the platinum rule come from a religious foundation or your upbringing?

**Boaz:** Well, I think it's all of the above. I was the youngest of 10 children and between my parents and my siblings it was instilled in me in my upbringing, which was deeply driven by my mother's and father's Christian guidance. I'm not a deeply religious person, I'm more of a spiritual person, but I would be lying if I told you that that wasn't deeply embedded in me.

Also, my parents are a lot older than me, so I have a bit of an old school kind of wisdom, soul kind of feeling and it comes from being raised in a small town in the North by two parents that were raised in the South during the 1920s and 30s. It was very, very powerful.

That idea that everyone has value came from the number of stories that were told through oral history in my household, where many people tried to convince my parents that they weren't valuable, that they weren't worth investing in. However, the few people who did show them that they were valued and then gave them opportunities and how my parents capi-

talized on those opportunities created something that was very special to me, for their lives and for them to show their children.

And coming, again, from the South and the 1920's and 30's there were lynchings and other inappropriate activities like that on full display in front of them. For them to share what it was like to experience these things, to live through schools being integrated in the South against the will of many of the people, and to experience an education system that wasn't designed for you to be successful, was very powerful. And for them to be successful despite that is incredible. It's not something I take lightly. It is part of what motivated me to get educated and to continue to work in an educational system.

It's been a powerful blessing for me to understand everything that my parents shared with me and to try to understand the things that they went through and to understand how fortunate I was to not have to endure those things at the level they did.

Now, the other side of that though is I did endure things. They were just very different from what my parents endured, and understanding that many of those things had nothing to do with anything that I did, but simply had to do with who I was and how I identified is what has propelled me in this field.

**Perryman:** How do you relax or bring balance to your life? Do you like music?

**Boaz:** I like music, but I'll be honest with you, my biggest form of entertainment is college football. I'm a college football junkie. I watch any college football I can watch.

**Perryman:** Your favorite college football team?

**Boaz:** I'm a Buckeyes fan and also, I've grown to be an Auburn fan. My son is an Auburn student and since my money's going there I just decided to cheer for that team a little bit.

**Perryman:** I have the same love for the University of Michigan, having sent two children there, so what can I say?

**Boaz:** You know what? Great education, I can't deny that, but I'd probably have to wear my scarlet and gray under everything when I go up there.

**Perryman:** Well, you'll have a whole lot of company in Toledo wearing scarlet and gray, so you won't have to hide it.

**Boaz:** (Laughter) That's a beautiful thing. I look forward to coming back to Toledo.

**Perryman:** We look forward to having you!

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at [drdperryman@enterofhope-baptist.org](mailto:drdperryman@enterofhope-baptist.org)



Matt Boaz

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# Jesse Jackson Thrills Toledo Audience

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, civil rights icon, former presidential candidate and one of the great orators of the past half century, came to Toledo last week to show his support for the General Motors employees who have been the targets of racial harassment.

"Cowards must be found," he said of those GM workers who are hanging nooses and scribbling racial messages while concealing their identities and avoiding punitive measures.

Jackson spoke with an audience of about 80 people, including GM employees, elected officials and local ministers during his two-hour stay in the Glass City – a reaction to the GM situation that has garnered attention in the national media. He drove down to Toledo from Detroit where he had spent the previous day participating in MLK Day activities.

Using his trademark technique of urging his audience to repeat his phrases, Jackson held his listeners' attention and involvement as he replied to those who voiced their grievances about harassment incidents they had experienced at local GM, Jeep and UPS worksites.

Given the fact that such incidents at the GM Powertrain plant have gone undetected, Jackson suggested that properly placed cameras might be a so-

lution to the problem. It was a refrain that met with some resistance among his listeners, but a solution he felt was worth trying in various places in the work site.

Jackson's primary suggestion, however, was that Toledoans should hold a mass meeting to emphasize the citizens' commitment to civility. "We must learn to live together as brothers and sisters," he said. "Not apart as fools."

Jackson also noted that the incidents in question were indeed the actions of individuals out of control, not the result of corporate or organizational lack of concern. "We're dealing with cowards not policy, per se," he said, noting the historic involvement of both General Motors and the United Auto Workers (UAW) in the civil rights movement. He cited the example of Walter Reuther, the labor leader who built the UAW into a powerful union force, who was a constant presence with Jackson and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the civil rights marches of the 1960's.

Ray Wood, the president of the Toledo NAACP and the former president of the UAW unit at the Powertrain facility, spent time with Jackson bringing

... continued on page 12



State Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson and Anita Madison



Ray Wood and Paul Hubbard



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# The 35th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The University of Toledo's TOLEDO EXCEL program held its 35th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth on Saturday, January 26 as hundreds of EXCEL students, parents and guests had an opportunity to exchange ideas and receive motivation from a variety of speakers including from keynote speaker, Terrell Strayhorn, PhD. The theme of this year's conference was "Onward and Upward: Persisting Through Barriers and Obstacles."

This year's attendees were welcomed by Alexis Means, 13 abc, mistress of ceremonies. The welcome speakers included Morgan Baker of the Toledo EXCEL Group XXIX; Sharon Gaber, PhD, UT president and Toledo City Councilwoman Yvonne Harper. A welcome poem was offered by Toledo EXCEL, Group XXVIII class member Lydia Myrick and the introduction of the guest speaker was presented by Russell Chapman of Toledo EXCEL Group XXVIII.

Strayhorn, founding CEO of Do Good Work Educational Consulting, LLC, is the interim vice president of academic and student affairs and professor of urban education at LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis, Tennessee. He previously served on the faculty at The Ohio State University as professor of the Center for Higher Education Enterprise.

Strayhorn is an internationally-recognized student success scholar and the author of 10 books and more than 200 book chapters, journal articles and other scholarly publications. His most popular book, *College Students' Sense of Belonging: A Key to Educational Success*, sold record numbers nationally and its second edition was published



*Guest speakers (center) and UT staff and faculty*



*Marie Bush, PhD (center) and former EXCEL participants*



*Terrell Strayhorn, center, with EXCEL students*



*... continued on page 12*

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## The Soulcial Scene

# Preserving Our Heritage: Embracing Hope For the Future

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

If you've lived long enough to experience the Civil Rights Movement, life in America today may feel awfully familiar. While the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was enacted to outlaw discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, we are witnessing increasing instances of discrimination, not just in the U.S., but in our own backyard here in Toledo.

The Civil Rights Act, which also prohibits racial segregation in schools, employment, voter applications and public accommodations, looks great on paper, yet today, the practices of many schools and employers directly violate the rights of African Americans on a regular basis to the point where it is the new normal.

We don't have to rewind our clocks or review history books to understand the experience of racial discrimination, since the culture of hate and inequity has been revived in our communities.

Barack Obama's blemish-free presidency was replaced with a tarnished soul whose ideals are an interpretation of what many national leaders live by and practice. The dehumanization of Black Folks has resurfaced.

We have seen far too many cases like the deaths of Tamir Rice, Sandra Bland and Mike Brown. We have lamented over wrongful youth incarcerations like Kalief Browder and Cyntoia Brown. We know that students of color like those at The Toledo School for the Arts have been disproportionately disciplined and that the pipeline to prison exists in our schools.

Several Toledoans have witnessed, first-hand, the racist culture in the workplace such as Marcus Boyd and Derrick Brooks, supervisors at the local General Motors plant who now have lawsuits against the company for fostering hate.

Then we cringed at the site of New Jersey wrestler Andrew Johnson, whose dreadlocks were cut off right before a match. We remember when Malachi Watley was forced out of Central Catholic High School because they didn't respect his Rastafarian culture wherein his be-

loved dreadlocks were birthed. This type of institutionalized discrimination is overt and exhausting.

How can one have hope when all around they see the adversity people of color are enduring on every side? Where are the people who have overcome and how did they manage to be true to themselves while building successful careers and businesses? How is the African-American community addressing these issues and encouraging people through them?

The black church has traditionally been the place of refuge and a beacon of light in times like these. Braden United Methodist Church, a landmark in the community for 110 years, is continuing the tradition of activism and outreach by hosting Black History Month events that will focus on preserving African-American heritage while demonstrating ways to embrace the great hope for change in the community for the future.

Beginning with the First Sunday, February 3rd at 10:30 AM, the morning worship will feature African-American hymns and spirituals. In addition, Holy Communion will take place where all are welcomed to the table.

The second Sunday, February 10, the church will be honoring Braden members who are pioneers in the local community, having served in multiple capacities, from starting and supporting educational programs to serving in the political arena and more. Following service, there will be a Teen Summit (ages 13-18) with a discussion on being true to yourself while facing bullying from peers and being targeted in school by teachers.

On the third Sunday, February 17, there will be a Baptism service by immersion, representing the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, a tradition of renewal and rebirthing that was the foundation of faith for our ancestors. On the fourth Sunday, February 24, all are welcomed to worship with us in African attire as we close

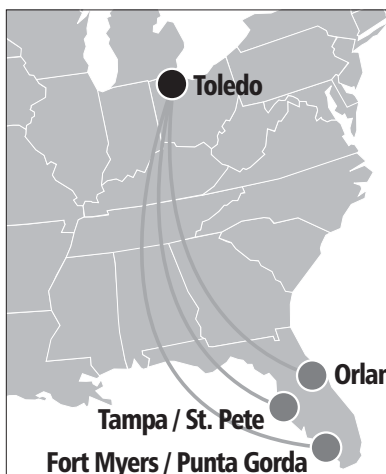


Megan Davis

Black History Month with praise for perseverance!

Each Sunday morning at 9:30 AM, the Christian Education department will have a round table on African-American devotions designed to dig deeper into the history, the challenges of slaves and civil rights leaders and the hope found in scripture that speaks to adversities we face. During morning worship, younger children ages five-12 years of age will be learning about being created in God's image and learning how to refute the negative ideals others may have of them.

On Friday, February 22 at 6:00 PM, the Annual Soul Food Potluck will focus on Preserving our HAIRitage, addressing discrimination policies in the workplace, schools and other organizations. There will be a panel with local guests that have experienced this type of discrimination and will share their stories. To learn more about the Black History Month programs at Braden visit [www.BradenUMC.org](http://www.BradenUMC.org), or call (419) 386-2700. The church is located at 4725 Dorr St. Toledo, OH 43615. Rev. Cecil J. Fitzgerald Thompson, Pastor



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## The Soulcial Scene

# Alpha Fraternity's Annual MLK Scholarship Breakfast

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Gold and black centerpieces and decorations welcomed over 500 attendees to the annual Alpha Xi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. brunch. The fresh snowfall didn't keep attendees away from this 27th occasion which was held on Saturday, January 19 at The Pinnacle in Maumee.

"We're excited to continue this legacy and give back to our city. To date, over 100 young men have received over \$157,000 in scholarships. We're also launching a city-wide mentoring program, called Alpha Esquire, in response to the need in our community. This will be open to young men," said Brandon Tucker, chapter president.

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Stacey Jones, Warren Marshall, PhD,  
Shana Marshall



Sheila and Rodney Eason



Councilman Larry Sykes and Mike Colbert



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Sheila and Rodney Eason



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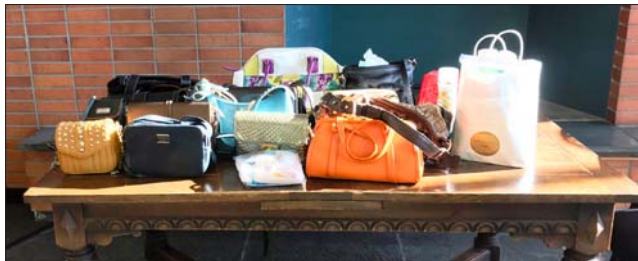
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## The Soulcial Scene

# Girl Friends Hold Day of Service on MLK Day

The Toledo Chapter of Girl Friends, Inc. on MLK day of service January 21, 2019 delivered gently-used purses filled with toiletries to the battered women's shelter at the YWCA. The organizer of this program was Vice President Katrina Barry. Marie L Bush, Ph.D is the chapter president.



(L. to R) - Asja Wynn; Richelle Watkins; Mary Enenmoh; VP Katrina Barry; YWCA CEO Lisa McDuffie; President Marie Bush; Lisa Dubose Ed.D; Lati Osinowo MD; Connie Nantwi, Ph.D and Aimee Fitzgerald.

# W. Charles "Charlie Chuck" Welch Celebrates 50 Years of Broadcasting

By Pastor Willie C. H. Garrett  
Special to The Truth

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... continued on page 11





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## The Soulcial Scene

MLK Scholarship... continued from page 8

The 2019 Drum Major for Justice Award honoree was Helen Cooks, PhD. She is founder and supporter of University of Toledo EXCEL program which has provided scholarship incentives to high school students to attend the University of Toledo. "This is one of my mountain top experiences in my life," said Cooks, as she received a standing ovation. The Toledo EXCEL program has been providing such scholarships for well over three decades.

Kristian Brown of 13abc served as the event's mistress of ceremonies, while Alpha members Darnell Ishmael serenaded the audience twice and David Young, the current director of Toledo EXCEL, delivered the invocation and benediction.

In addition to ticket sales, the event was supported by the following sponsors: Ohio Council of Community Schools; King Campion partner; LIUNA Laborer's Local 500; Owens Corning; University of Toledo College of Pharmacy; Jewel Legacy Partners; African American Leadership Council of United Way; Brothers United; Columbia Gas Ohio; Dave White



Scholarship recipients - Justin Barnes, Chase Dupree, Anthony Ellis, Adarius-Johnson, Kaleb Johnson, Jalil Mitchell and Patrick Taylor

Chevrolet Acura; First Federal Bank; KeyBank; Lucas County Metropolitan Housing Authority; Mercy Health Partners; Mitchell Dermatology & Mitchell Law, LLC; Toledo Lucas County Port Authority; Toledo Museum of Art and University of Toledo Office of Diversity and Inclusion; Gold Sustainer Partners and a host of supporters and partners.

"I personally want to thank all the sponsors and attendees," explained John Jones, event chairman.



Alpha Officers and Keynote Speaker Maurice Stinnett, PhD

Tolliver... continued from page 3

But, when they engage in acts of racism or sexism, they playing the role of the innocent dunce won't work in a court of law.

Being a minority in a society in which people of color are vilified or are bombarded with images that bespeak of them as not worthy of credence or belief or they are portrayed as intellectually stilted, means that you have to be precise in identifying what happen to you and who did it to you. None of that, "I think so" stuff but rather, "I know so" stuff.

(4) Management loves to trot out its manuals and policies that speak of justice, fair play and due process when they are caught up in situations wherein they are being challenged for allowing racial conduct to fester in a work setting. That is what they are supposed to do and say because they are out to defend their jobs; and the paycheck that they want to continue to receive.

In closing whatever path you take, fight or flight, you must make sure that you can live with yourself when the dust settles and that you did not let an oppressor off of the hook nor did you give them an out so that they can continue with their practices of harming people of color.

Whatever terms of settlement, if any, that are agreed upon, make sure that the terms are terms that you can live with for years to come and especially make sure that the terms of settlement does not include a clause by which you are prohibited to speak to the public about what happened to you and the terms of the settlement.

Management desires to have those terms in a "closed mouth" agreement so that you can not spread the word of their work place evil and alert others that they too can fight and win! If you can but are not willing to stand up for yourself, don't expect others to do that for you.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



## 16TH ANNUAL BLACK COLLEGE TOUR

### Tentative Southern Tour includes:

Clark Atlanta – Atlanta, GA  
Spelman College (females only) – Atlanta, GA  
Morehouse College (males only) – Atlanta, GA  
Savannah State – Savannah, GA  
Alabama A & M – Huntsville, AL  
Alabama State University – Montgomery, AL  
Tuskegee University – Tuskegee, AL  
Tennessee State University – Nashville, TN

**Tour Scheduled for April 14, 2019 through April 19, 2019**  
**Deposit is required to secure a seat on the tour**

### For More Information Call:

Mrs. Trevor Black – 419.478.7844  
Mrs. Linda Collins – 419.902.8541  
Mrs. Pattie Poston – 419.277.7091



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**The Maumee Bay Club**

National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

## The Soulcial Scene

### Prayer Breakfast... continued from page 16

second vice president and project chairman. Mary McKinley-Reed, the chapter's president welcomed the ladies and their guests – then the partners and project participants were welcomed.

The women representing the partners gave inspirational stories on how each organization works to provide services to the community and how their groups have affected the lives of others and how they can provide assistance through reading and information.

The Top Ladies' program, Boots for Bare Feet, helps children who need boots to stay warm during winter. Boot donations are ongoing and can be accepted at anytime. The boots were donated to The Toledo Lucas County Children's Services.

The breakfast attendees were ministered during the prayer breakfast by two praise dance performances that delivered God's message through music and dance by Janay Temple and the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church Total Praise Dance team.

The Toledo Chapter Chaplain Lady Clara Brank blessed the food as guests fellowshiped during a buffet breakfast.

TLOD's shining star at the prayer breakfast was Rev. Sheree Madison-Emery, the guest speaker who motivated and inspired everyone in attendance. As she "Inspired Others Through Praise," she left the audience spiritually motivated and enriched by her message. Her high energy and enthusiasm for God and what he's done, uplifted guests and reminded them that they can overcome their struggles with a positive attitude..

Madison-Emery also blessed prayer cards that each guest filled out to send out prayers for their love ones.

The Top Ladies Of Distinction Inc Toledo chapter was recognized by Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes with a Council Resolution applauding the hard work that is being done in the community with the chapter's programs, projects, partnerships.

Denise Cardwell is the chapter's program chairman and, as such, focuses on the National Programs, Thrust and Partnerships. The National Thrust promotes Top Teens of America, status of women, senior citizens, community beautification and community partnerships. The John H. McKissick Senior Center representatives and seniors were also present in support of the Prayer Breakfast. Future Top Teens of America (TTA) were also in attendance. The Toledo Chapter youth are ready to serve as they are guided and mentored by the adult members as they take on leadership roles with Top Teens of America (TTA).

Officers and ladies of the Toledo chapter also include: Marianne Wilkins, recording secretary; Clara Petty, corresponding secretary; Barbara Tucker, financial secretary; Elizabeth Flournoy, treasurer; Madelyn Standard, Top Teen advisor; Wanda Terrell Galloway, director of operations, Sheryl Riggs; Clara Brank, chaplain; Delores Anderson, sergeant at arms and Delores Bates, historian

Certificates and special recognition were presented to representatives from Sickle Cell, NCNW, Books4Buddies, Boots for Barefeet, Janay Temple and Total Praise Dancers by President McKinley-Reed.

Prayer Breakfast co-chairmen were Black-Poon and Terrell Galloway.



Boots For Bare Feet



Laneta Goings of Books 4 Buddies; LaShardae Scott of Sickle Cell; Sheree Madison-Emery, Mary McKinley Reed, representing NCNW; Delores Bates of Boots For Bare Feet



Laneta Goings and Books 4 Buddies student Ambassador

### 50 Years of Broadcasting... continued from page 9

for a dozen of eggs, 12 cents for a pound of sugar and \$1.10 for a gallon of milk. You mailed a letter for six cents, bought a new car for \$2,000 and drove it to your \$40,000 new home. Records show that the population of the United States was 202,677,000 and of that number there was one who in the radio industry stood out among the rest. That person, W. Charles Welch affectionately known as "Charlie Chuck".

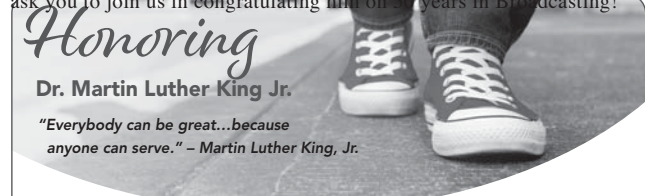
On February 4, 2019, Charlie Chuck will celebrate 50 years of Broadcasting. His career ladder includes, broadcasting with WKLR, Booth Broadcasting and one year later served as the Station Manager; Sales Manager for KCOH in Houston, TX as well as WWWS in Saginaw, Michigan; and General Manager for WVOI JACOR Communications here in Toledo, Ohio. While working for others, Charlie Chuck held on to his dream to own his own radio station.

To make his dream a reality, Charlie Chuck petitioned the FCC for a license in pursuit of an available frequency. The process was a long and tedious journey that involved attorneys, court proceedings, plenty of paperwork, scrambling through red tape, multiple denials and in return, multiple appeals. Despite what others would see as obstacles, Charlie Chuck remained focused and after ten years on his initial petition, WJUC-FM 107.3 THE JUICE officially signed on the air, February 27, 1997. It was then that he entered in the local history books as the first African American male to build a radio station from the ground up in Toledo, Ohio.

Fifty years ago, you would turn on the radio and hear songs like, "I Don't Know Why" by Stevie Wonder, "I Don't Want Nobody to Give me Nothing" by James Brown, Marvin Gaye song, "I Heard it Through the Grapevine" and The Jackson 5 could be heard singing, "I Want you Back". But one song played then and still applies today, was a song by

The Edwin Hawkins Singers, "Oh Happy Day". This is a "Happy Day" as we salute W. Charles Welch.

As the lyrics of "I've Gotta Be Me" (1969) sung by Sammy Davis Jr. states, "Whether I'm right or whether I'm wrong, whether I find a place in this world or never belong, I gotta be me, I've gotta be me. What else can I be but what I am, I want to live, not merely survive. And I won't give up this dream, of life that keeps me alive, I gotta be me, I gotta be me. Charlie Chuck did not give up on his dream and for that reason we ask you to join us in congratulating him on 50 years in Broadcasting!"



## State Bank GIVES

State Bank GIVES (Gathering Individuals to Volunteer, Empower and Serve) is a Volunteer program created to provide local nonprofit organizations access to State Bank employees who volunteer their time to make a difference in the lives of the people and communities where we live, work, and play.

Request volunteers at [YourStateBank.com/GIVES](http://YourStateBank.com/GIVES)



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1900 Monroe Street, Suite 108  
Toledo, OH 43604

# The Black Lives Matter Awards

On Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 5 p.m, the Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo will present the Black Lives Matter Awards "Celebrating Our 25 under 45" at the Frederick Douglass Community Association at 1001 Indiana Ave. in the heart of central city Toledo will be where it all happens.

Based upon our diligent research within our community we have taken on the task of identifying and lifting up a few of those great women and men who make a difference in the lives of our communities' youth and families.

On this day we'll celebrate 25 individuals "twenty-five under forty-five" who

may have gone under our radar for much too long in our community and as a small token of our appreciation we'll honor them for their hard work and continued sacrifice.

The evening will consist of dinner and entertainment hosted by RaShya M. Ghee, Esq., MBA, for CSRN and The Black Lives Matter Awards For more info or to make a donation toward this effort please contact Hadgu or Bro. Washington at 419-378-1532 or 419-973-0248 RSVP Dinner \$20 donation-RSVP facebook.com/csrntoledo #BLMawards #25under45

*Jesse Jackson... continued from page 5*

him up to speed on the situation at GM and the lawsuits that are now active – Wood has filed one suit, another has been filed by nine other employees – both accusing management of ignoring and enabling the harassment.

Wood agreed with Jackson about GM's policy on the national level but voiced his concern that local plant management and union officials are not so bound by corporate policy.

"The problem is when it filters down to the local level, their autonomy is a problem," he explained.

Jackson held fast to his theory that cameras were a solution to a number of such problems, citing the example of body and car cameras employed by numerous police departments and the impact they have had in uncovering the truth about incidents that have turned violent. While not all of the crowd agreed with Jackson on this possible solution to the problem, he nevertheless had already gained the respect of virtually everyone in the audience by virtue of his lifelong struggle to civil rights and improving the condition of people of color in America and around the world.

Jackson also observed that a relatively few individuals can mislead and

thwart the good intentions of a multitude. One blind man, he said, can lead a hundred sighted souls to destruction.

*Aspiring Minority Youth... continued from page 6*

in September 2018. He was named one of the nation's top diversity scholars by Diverse: Issues in Higher Education in 2011, one of Business First's "Top 40 Under 40," one of the "Top 20 to Know in Education and became the youngest full professor in OSU's history in 2014.

After Strayhorn's keynote address, David Young, director of Toledo EXCEL and Special Projects gave the day's acknowledgements and presented a special tribute for the late Emerson Ross.

Christopher Scott was the sessions speaker this year. Scott, founder of Reach to Teach National, an organization that provides motivational services for youth throughout the country, is a graduate of the University of Toledo with a master's in education concentrating in Theory and Social Foundations. He recently published his first book titled 7 Secrets to Surviving College, which teaches students how to prepare for their college experience.

Saturday, February 16, 2019

12:00 Noon - 3 PM

## HEART2HEART LUNCHEON

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910 Woodville Rd., Toledo, Ohio

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[heart2heartluncheon.eventbrite.com](http://heart2heartluncheon.eventbrite.com)



Speaker | Pastor Celeste Mitchell  
relationship coach, author &  
TV host of Heart of the Matter

# Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Leave me alone.

That's what you'd like to tell just about everybody right now: go away. Stop talking to me. Don't fuss, quit fighting, put away those bad words. You're done, so leave me alone. As in the new book *Genesis Begins Again* by Alicia D. Williams, life is much easier if you don't rely too much on people who hurt you.

The Mean Girls at her old school were dumb.

Thirteen-year-old Genesis Anderson had proof: the list they circulated was titled "100 REASONS WHY WE HATE GENESIS" but only 60 things were on the list and some were totally lame.

Whatever. Every now and then, Genesis added her own entries to the list.

She hated that she let Mean Girls get away with being mean. She hated herself because her Dad drank too much and gambled with rent-paying money, so her family moved a lot. She hated having to stay with her Grandma, however temporary it was each time. Most of all, she hated her dark skin and her tangly-thick curls, and that she didn't inherit her mother's coffee-with-milk complexion and "good hair."

She could've added that she hated having fake friends but, after yet another publicly humiliating home eviction, more promises from Dad, and an upgraded rental, she'd first see if a new school and another fresh start made any difference.

Thankfully, as it turned out, things weren't bad at Farmington Oaks Middle School, just outside Detroit. In the beginning, Genesis kept to herself because there were Mean Girls there, too, but she was happy to see that most of the kids were nice. She began to make real friends, and she found her first BFF. She even liked her teachers, including the one who encouraged her talents as a singer.

But none of these positives changed Genesis's view of herself as "ugly."

c.2019  
Atheneum Books for  
Young Readers  
\$17.99 / \$23.99 Canada  
384 pages

Dark skin, "nappy" hair, there had to be a way to fix it. Once she learned the secrets in her family, past and present, there was just no way she could accept herself as she was...

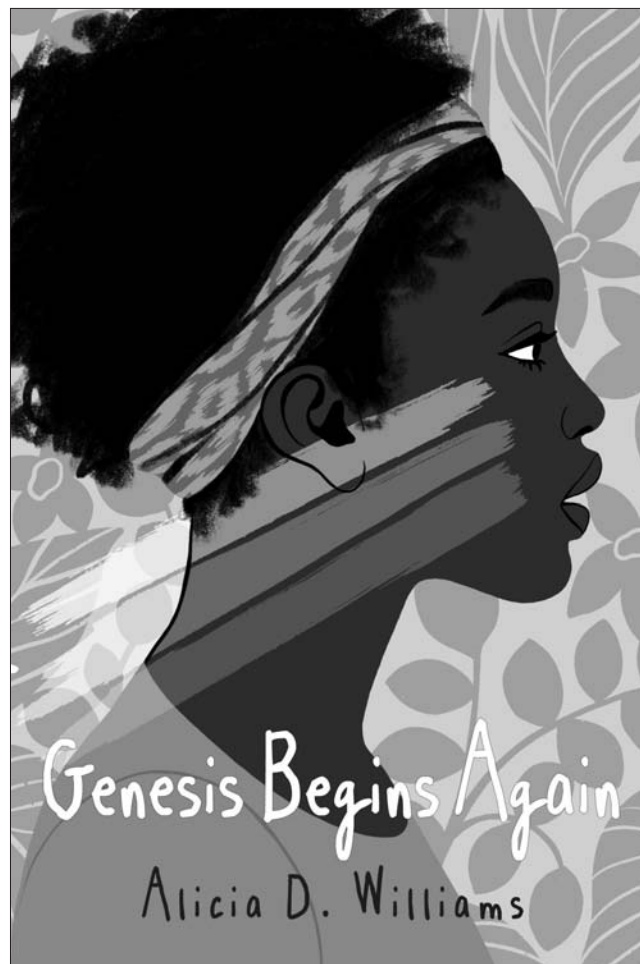
Starting with an awkward situation with frenemies, author Alicia D. Williams introduces nine-to-13-year-olds to an observant, smart-but-typical kid with modern problems, including a kind of racism that's not often discussed.

What ultimately happens is a shocker to the story, in part because we're abruptly told the truth about some of the adults in Genesis' life and though it explains a lot, it's not pretty. We learn of this ugliness when she does, presenting an opportunity for readers to think about (and deal with) topics that might be new or uncomfortable. Happily, it's all done with the barest, mildest profanity and absolutely zero unnecessary drama. Also nice for both you, and for your young reader: the friends Genesis makes are real-life-real, and adults in this book are portrayed without a hint of malice or ridicule.

For a middle-schooler, this book set in a middle-schooler's life is perfect, especially if their life isn't. Hand your child *Genesis Begins Again*, and she won't be able to leave it alone.



Alicia D. Williams



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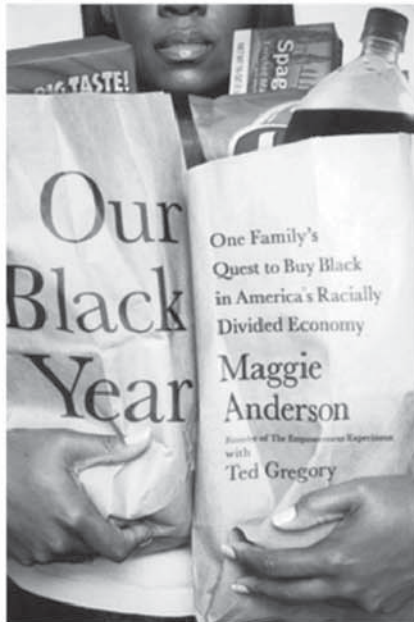
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**Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday**

When: Every 4th Sunday  
Time: 11:00 am  
Where: Crusaders for Christ Church  
910 Woodville Rd.  
Toledo, Ohio

Evangelist: Tiffany Reynolds

Bishop Joseph Marshall Jr., Pastor  
Emeritus: Celeste Mitchell, First Lady

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# CLASSIFIEDS

January 30, 2019

Page 15

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Manhattan Marsh Metropark Development** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, February 15, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.** local time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of new park development including construction of 1.74 miles of multi-use aggregate path, 1,631 feet of wooden boardwalk & overlooks, canoe/kayak launch, 20 car aggregate lot, concrete walks, asphalt approaches, signage, landscaping, and aggregate base, plumbing & electric utility work related to the installation of an owner-supplied precast restroom building. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at [www.newfaxcorp.com](http://www.newfaxcorp.com). Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$30 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, [jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com).

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners  
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE  
TOLEDO AREA

David D. Zenk, Director

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**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY19-32, (Project # 1130-19-205) for Electrical System Enhancements for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 5, 2019. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$150.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Desjardins of JDRM Engineering at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$1,300,000.00; Breakdown: Electrical: \$1,300,000.00

**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY19-36, (Project # 1130-19-206) for Research Labs Renovations for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 12, 2019. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$160.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Alejandro J. Medina of BHDP Architecture at 513-271-1634. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$692,000.00; Breakdown: General: \$419,500.00; Plumbing: \$60,000.00; Fire Protection: \$6,500.00; HVAC: \$102,000.00; Electrical: \$104,000.00

## Emergency Warming Centers To Open Wednesday - Friday

Although the severe weather causes the Area Office on Aging to urge seniors NOT to go out unless they absolutely have to, the Area Office on Aging will open Warming Centers Wednesday through Friday at the following locations:

Maumee Senior Center, 419-893-1994

Oregon Senior Center, 419-698-7078

2430 S. Detroit Ave., Maumee, OH 43537

4350 Navarre Ave., Oregon, OH 43616  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mayores Senior Center, 419-242-1142

2 Aurora Gonzalez Road

Toledo, OH 43609

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## The Soulcial Scene

# Top Ladies of Distinction Holds Annual Prayer Breakfast

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The members of The Toledo Chapter of the Top Ladies of Distinction & Top Teens of America held their annual prayer breakfast on Saturday, January 26 at the Radisson Hotel on the campus of the University of Toledo Medical Center with the theme of "Inspiring Others Through Praise."

This year, the Ladies brought on board several community organizations to participate in the event. Those programs, projects and partnerships included the Sickie Cell Anemia chapter and director LaShardae Scott; National Council of Negro Women and director Janice Taylor, Books4Buddies and founder Laneta Goings and Boots for Bare Feet under the guidance of Top Ladies member Delores Bates.

This year's mistress of ceremonies was Denise Black-Poon, the chapter's



(L. to R.): Delores Bates, Barbara Tucker, Delores Anderson, Denise Black-Poon, Denise Cardwell, Rev. Sheree Madison-Ernery, Mary McKinley-Reed, Wanda Terrell Galloway, Clara Petty, Madelyn Standard, Clara Brank



Wanda Terrell-Galloway, Denise Black-Poon, Mary McKinley-Reed, Councilman Larry Sykes



Elizabeth Flournoy and Councilman Larry Sykes

... continued on page 11



SPOTLIGHT  
event

# QUEEN LATIFAH

FEBRUARY 16, 8 PM | THE PERISTYLE

*Michelle Merrill, conductor*

Film and music legend Queen Latifah comes to Toledo for this special event you don't want to miss! With a Grammy award and six nominations for albums in jazz, pop and rap, an Oscar nomination for her role in *Chicago*, and dozens of other film and television roles, this Renaissance woman defies genres with her compelling voice and presence.

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