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A Central City Community Gathering
A Lighter Shade of Blue

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

I felt somehow for many years that George Washing-
ton and Alexander Hamilton just left me out by mistake. But through the process of amendment, interpretation and court decision, I have finally been included in “We, the people.” - Barbara Jordan

Recent census data shows that, for the first time in U.S. history, most of the nation’s babies are members of minority groups. Ironically, as we rapidly approach the dawn of this new era in which whites no longer will be in the majority, the number of African-American officers on the Toledo Police Force may have dwindled to a mere handful by the time these babies enter middle school.

In 1985, black police personnel reached a peak of 133, largely as beneficiaries of a lawsuit filed against the City of Toledo alleging discriminatory employment and promotional practices. A consent decree required TPD’s personnel data to reflect the community’s demographics.

However, the decree was dismissed in the fall of 2010 and at a time when the number of black male officers has dropped nearly a third from a high of 98 to 68. The total number of black officers are also down 27 percent as compared to the 20 percent decline in the overall department since 1985. New police classes are few and far between and African-American recruits are a rare sight even when classes do take place.

“We know what’s at stake,” states Sgt. Harold E. Mosley, president of the African American Police League. “The question is how are we going to address the attrition and have a police force that is representative of the community. The city has known for a long time that this day would come and is now here, but the issue has been ignored. The failure to aggressively recruit and add quality officers of color invites the perception of bias and possibly points to another lawsuit,” he adds.

With a police class of 40 persons off the current exam list scheduled to begin in September and an additional class scheduled in 2013 from a new eligibility list, the city is looking at better ways to recruit, according to Safety Director Shirley Green, Ph.D.

“We received a COPS grant, so 15 persons will be military veterans which will open up some avenues for minorities. Army recruiters have offered to help and we are also looking at laid off Detroit police officers for our 2013 class,” says Green. However, the greater challenge to bringing more officers of color onto the force may be the City’s hiring process and TPD’s traditional, status quo organizational mindset and policing model.

Recruits are required to first score well on the civil service exam. They must then pass a background check, do well on an oral interview and get through the academy. Additionally, police hopefuls must undergo a medical exam, endure a written and an oral psychological evaluation and finally, perform a physical agility test.

Yet for minorities, the difficulty of the process lies not so much in its comprehensiveness, but in the subjectivity of the selection criteria, which many believe targets blacks for elimination.

The paramilitary hierarchical structure of the police department often subtly, but powerfully, encourages peer evaluators to go along with the status quo during oral interviews. Those screeners whose opinions do not fit in with the traditional mindset could find themselves isolated and alienated in the department. Finding officers willing to deviate from traditional unwritten rules in evaluating minorities can be challenging.

In addition, the city, according to Green, uses a behavioral assessment tool that it has developed on its own rather than using a validated tool linking behavior to job performance in the selection process. The current assessment tool potentially has little or no relevance to the job of policing.

Also, the background check is based upon a points list which provides minus points but not pluses and often disqualifies potential recruits for minor or youthful indiscretions from the distant past which may not be true indicators of character.

“It’s not that the city is not trying,” Green asserts. “But the issue is how do we get young people excited about police and fire careers. How can the departments be reflective of the community without stigma being attached? We are dealing with the issues we need to make it happen because we want our departments to be legitimate in the eyes of the community.”

For certain, new partnerships with the community, more trust and mutual respect are needed since TPD must “police by consent” if it is to be effective. Young people who view police as legitimate are more likely to break their “stop snitching” code of silence and cooperate to solve and prevent crime. However, youth must feel that the department is fair in all regards before it grants a stamp of approval on police authority.

Finally, when it comes to the sensitive and controversial issues of police personnel administration and recruitment of minority officers, the capacity for change lies with the political power of the mayor and the institutional influence and authority of the police chief.

Only Mayor Mike Bell and Chief Derrick Diggs have enough “juice” to change the political power of the mayor and the institutional influence and authority of the administration and recruitment of minority officers, the capacity for change lies with the political power of the mayor and the institutional influence and authority of the police chief.

The amount of political will that Bell and Diggs are “packing” will determine whether the complexion of the police department continues to lighten or if we must return to the dark days of our legal past.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Community Calendar

June 18-July 27
Canaan Outreach Center Summer Enrichment Program: For ages 5 to 14; Math and language arts, physical activity, drama, dance, field trips; 11 am to 3 pm; Pre-registration starts on June 13 from 11 am to 3 pm: 419-244-5700

July 23-27
Pilgrim Church Vacation Bible School: 6 to 8:30 pm nightly; Children ages 4 to 5th grade; “Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street: 419-478-6012
St. Stephens COGIC Vacation Bible School: 6 to 8 pm
Bredan United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School: Ages 4- adult; 5 to 8 pm: 419-386-2700
City of Zion, the Mt. Zion Church Bible Boot Camp: 6pm nightly; Age appropriate instruction for youth and adults

July 26
Community Action: New Hope MBC; For residents of the Old West End; Cindy Geronimo, director of LC Land Bank: 419-464-9885

July 26-29
Dominion Word Festival 2012: “Supernatural Enlargement;” Food every night; Sonrise Community Church; 7 pm Thurs and Fri; Noon Saturday; 10 am Sunday

July 28
St. Stephens COGIC Community Festival; 11 am to 5 pm; Food, face painting, gospel DJ
The Armory Church Prayer Breakfast: 9 am; Guest speaker Mildred Harris of Chicago: 419-537-9736

July 29
Ebenezer MBC Annual 100 Women in White Service: Guest Min. Sherea Lewis of Detroit; 4 pm; “It’s Getting Hot in Here, Are You Saved;” 419-729-1466

August 3
Golf for Scholarships Outing: Bedford Hills Golf Course; sponsored by UT Black Alumni and A Journey Through Healing; Scholarship fund raiser: 419-530-5378 or 419-531-1336

August 4
Friendship Baptist Church Vacation Bible School: 8 am to 4:30 pm
Toledo Bowling Senate “Fun-A-Rama;” Miracle Bowling Lanes; 5 to 8 pm: 419-480-0122

August 11
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Open Recruitment Day: Opportunity for young women and parents to learn about the sorority’s youth affiliate program – Rhoer Club; Main Branch Library;11 am to 1 pm: 419-509-3625

August 20
Aurora Project’s 19th Annual Cousino Harris DKI Golf Classic: Toledo Country Club; Benefit for Aurora House; Registration at 10 am: 419-244-3200

The Sojourner’s Truth
July 25, 2012

Toledo’s Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor
Becky McQueen – Business Manager
Artisha Lawson – Reporter
Candice Harrison – Reporter
Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist
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One Shining Star: Toledo Early College High School

By Steven Flagg

Guest Column

The recent rating of Toledo Public Schools’ Early College High School by U.S. News as a bronze medal school is good news. It certainly says that something good is afoot. But a closer look at the numbers puts the enthusiasm into perspective.

US News ranked 21,776 public high schools – this included charter schools – but does not include private and parochial schools due to a lack of state testing data for these schools. While the reason for limiting the review to public schools is reasonable, this fact likely inflates the ratings for public high schools in comparison with all American high schools.

Of the public high schools rated, 4,877 (22.4 percent) were nationally recognized with a bronze medal or better. For those schools recognized, 500 (2.3 percent) were awarded gold medals, 1508 (6.9 percent) were granted silver medals and finally 2,869 (13.2 percent) schools were recognized with a bronze medal.

Ohio had 873 public schools rated – four percent of schools rated nationally - with 19 (2.2 percent) gold, 93 (10.7 percent) silver and 140 (16.0 percent) bronze medals awarded.

For Toledo the news is not good overall nationally or within the state. Only two schools – Toledo Early College and Toledo School for the Arts – are ranked nationally and neither is listed as a top 100 high school in Ohio. The Toledo Metropolitan area saw nine high schools (one percent of Ohio schools rated) recognized with one gold medal, five silver and three bronze medals which include the two Toledo schools.

It is important to give credit where it is due, it is also important to realize the relative merit of these awards and understand that this good idea – Toledo Early College High School - still needs to improve with regard to student outcomes and its competitive ranking.

Putting yourself on the back can be a constructive experience if it reinforces positive behaviors. But you risk becoming complacent and resting upon your laurels if you don’t realize that you are but part of the 22.4 percent, certainly not the best and not that special.

Still, the Toledo Early College has made good progress over its six-year history and has a solid foundation for continued and improved success if the future focus is on learning and not awards. So while congratulations are in order, what’s the plan for greater academic success?

Toledo Public Schools has even more work to do when you consider – based upon 2011 fall enrollment – that just 211 students out of 6,624 TPS high school students or 3.2 percent attend a school that is competitive with the best 4,877 high schools that received national recognition.

TPS would like you to think their one-year old transformation plan is working. While the changes appear positive, the truth is TPS has just begun its reform efforts and the U.S. News public high school rankings demonstrate just how far they have to go.

Dear Editor:

A year ago, a coalition of Buckeyes delivered the signatures of 1.3 million Ohioans to stop Senate Bill 5 from becoming law in Ohio. Because of their efforts, SB5 also known as Issue 2 was placed on the ballot and overwhelmingly rejected by voters. As a result John Kasich’s attempt to rob public employees of their rights was struck from the books.

We won’t forget that Mitt Romney stood in lock-step with Gov. John Kasich in his unprecedented attack on teachers, police officers, firefighters and other public employees.

Mitt Romney said that he was “110 percent behind” Gov. Kasich’s efforts to take away basic bargaining rights from teachers and other public sector employees.

Even though Ohioans soundly defeated Issue 2 at the ballot last November, Romney continued his attacks when he recently said we don’t need more firefighters, police officers, and teachers, if/they don’t make essential contributions to our communities. If he has his way, Mitt Romney will make Issue 2 a nationwide problem.

We rejected the Romney-Kasich attempt to take away the rights of public sector workers in Ohio. Last year we said “No on Issue 2, and now we must say “No on Mitt Romney.”

Unlike Romney, President Obama is fighting to protect hundreds of thousands of teachers in classrooms and keep thousands of police officers, firefighters and first responders protecting our communities. President Obama is fighting to make a difference now, and in the future for our communities, our economy and our country, which is why I support him for president.

Betty Evans
Toledo Teacher

“Once Hospice of Northwest Ohio stepped in, my worries were gone.”

“I constantly felt like I was in the hands of experts with Hospice of Northwest Ohio. I didn’t know if my husband needed a change of medicine or needed to sit up. I didn’t know all the things to make him comfortable, but they did.”

– Anita, wife of a Hospice of Northwest Ohio patient

We are the area’s largest and most experienced provider of hospice care, a nonprofit organization solely dedicated to providing the best possible end-of-life experience for our patients and their families.

Ask for us by name. The sooner you do, the more we can help.

Answers for Living the Last Months of Life
Polly Fox Academy, a school dedicated to helping pregnant and parenting teenage girls, grades seven – 12 complete their high school education, will hold its annual Citywide Baby Shower for teen mothers on Thursday, August 2.

In addition to gift bags for potential students, refreshments, and door prizes, the free 1-3:00 p.m. event will give interested young women the opportunity to find out how they can earn their high school diploma at Polly Fox Academy.

The Academy is free of charge to all pregnant and parenting teenage girls in northwest Ohio. Its mission is to help young mothers graduate and achieve financial independence so they can support themselves and their children.

Besides the usual high school curriculum, Polly Fox offers classes that prepare students to cope with the special challenges that face teenage mothers. Social service support and linkages to appropriate community resources are also provided.

Subsidized daycare through Toledo Day Nursery is available to care for the children of students while they attend classes. In addition, the Academy offers flexible scheduling that is adaptable to the needs of both mother and child.

Polly Fox has a school-based health clinic with a nurse educator who provides health education with a focus on pre-natal care. She is available to answer students’ questions about pregnancy as well as medical concerns they might have about their children. The nurse educator can also diagnose medical problems and refer students to a doctor so they don’t have to rely on emergency room care. The Academy offers career preparation that empowers students to become independent. The program includes skills assessment, job readiness training and mentoring opportunities. Job shadowing and internship placements are also offered. Seniors create a portfolio they can use in job interviews.

The Citywide Baby Shower will be held at Polly Fox Academy, which is located at 1505 Jefferson Avenue at 16th street across from the Catholic Club. Free on-site parking is available.

For additional information, call 419-720-4593.
Concerned citizens, engaged community organizations and civic leaders rallied together on Saturday, July 21, 2012. The United Way organized the “We are Toledo: A Community Gathering” with the purpose of allowing community input to shape future United Way programs.

The community meeting, with close to 200 attendees, opened with a documentary-styled video presentation created by Velocity Heights, a group of positive Toledo-area young people inspired by creative expression. Founder and president Jarrod Atkins says the group thinks of themselves as a brotherhood with plans for a mentoring program.

“I’ve been into art my whole life, had a few artistic friends and figured we could do something great,” said Atkins. “We believe in brotherhood so we chose a fraternity-style brotherhood so we chose a fraternity program. We’re open to 15-25 year olds and our mentoring program is open to eight to 12 year olds.”

Immediately following the video, two community residents Coleena Ali and Greg Braylock led attendees through a series of six themes.

“We heard from hundreds of neighbors who shared comments, concerns, hopes, dreams, and stories, but we found six common themes that kept rising to the top,” said Braylock, director of education for United Way. The six themes were: people want a clean and safe community which is free of violence, gangs and drugs; people want job training and skills to get a job and pay bills; people want strong families, supportive adults and positive role models; people don’t want to be limited by their neighborhood; people want access to healthy food and activities for youth and teenagers.

Inspired by the purpose of the community meeting, executive director of Grace Community Center, Elaine Page, attended with her seven-year-old niece and nephew.

“I’m of this community and these are my kids for the day,” said Page. “Our babies have a real fear and I hope they learn today that this community cares. Our babies should know that their concerns and their voices are important.”

Throughout the report out of each theme, attendees were asked to reflect into a journal for one minute. One reflection provided by Todd Welch of Glass City Allstars provided insight into local community groups that provide teens an alternative to gang violence. “We teach people to be entrepreneurs, we hold video game tournaments and mentorship,” said Welch. “We inspire people to dream to hustle, cause hustling isn’t about drugs, it’s about living your dream.”

Jane Moore, interim CEO of United Way of Greater Toledo asked residents and organizations that attended the meeting to engage one another individually and as a collective.

“I hope personally, when people walk away from this gathering, they meet and connect with someone,” said Moore. “Then find ways they can impact the community individually to take action.”

The community partners who planned the meeting were: Jane Moore and United Way of Greater Toledo, Doni Miller and the Neighborhood Health Association, Jarrod Atkins and Velocity Heights; Calvin Sweeney, D.Min, of Pinewood Tabernacle and United Pastors for Social Empowerment; Rev. Robert Culp, D.Min, and First Church of God; Karl Parker and the Frederick Douglass Community Association; Albert Earl and Village 50; Cleveland Williams and GI Vipers and Todd Welch and Glass City Allstars.
In Memoriam

Dr. Samantha P. Adams – July 17, 1926 – July 17, 2012
Chiropractic Physician, Trailblazer, Mother, Community Icon and Leader

Samantha P. Adams was born on July 17, 1926 to the late Rev. Motteller and Deacon Deeder J. Porter in the rural area of Humboldt, Tennessee. The Porter family moved to Ohio when she was only one month old; and they lived in Woodville, Ohio until she reached the age of nine.

Dr. Adams was a resident of Toledo, Ohio for the remainder of her 86 years. On her birthday, July 17, 2012, Dr. Adams passed away at St. Luke’s Hospital. She was surrounded by her adoring family, gathered in celebration and prayer; singing “Don’t Forget The Family Prayer” and “God Be With You Till We Meet Again.”

She was one of the most intelligent, inspirational women not only in the lives of her children and grandchildren, but also the city of Toledo. A woman full of arduous firsts: a true trailblazer.

Samantha P. Adams was a graduate of the Toledo Public School system (Scott High School). She attended The University of Toledo, City College of New York and received her doctor of chiropractic degree from the Chiropractic Institute of New York.

She was the first black woman to pass the Ohio State Medical Board in her field and was the only practicing black chiropractic physician in Toledo. She had been recognized and honored on many occasions as the city of Toledo’s first black woman doctor and amongst the 10 top black businesswomen.

Dr. Adams was active in many civic and religious groups. They included the Frederick Douglass Community Association, Indiana Avenue YMCA, YWCA, League of Women Voters of Greater Toledo, Church Women United, and the Parent-Teacher Association. She was a member of AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and was affiliated with the Area Office On Aging.

She was chairman of the New Hope Porter’s Grove Pentecostal Church Building Fund Committee, the church which her mother founded. She worked actively with the Toledo Council of Churches and with many individual churches. She was popular as a speaker and in 1969 was elected to the highly selective International Platform Association of Speakers.

Dr. Adams was very active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She served on the local executive committee and was a past president and vice president of the Toledo Branch NAACP. She was chairman of many local, state and national committees.

In 1957, she became the first fully paid life member of the Toledo Branch NAACP and was listed in the national archives as “among the First 1000 in the nation to become a Life Member”. In 1978, she became the first individual to purchase a Golden Heritage Membership in the Toledo Branch NAACP.

In 1977, she expanded her civic activities to include the political arena when she was elected by a large margin to the Toledo Board of Education becoming the first black woman elected to that body and the first black woman elected official in Lucas County. She served her full term of four years on the Toledo Board of Education and was elected as both the vice president and president of that Board.

She was chairwoman of the Board’s curriculum committee which monitored the establishment of the “Official Course of Study” for the Toledo Public Schools. During her tenure on the Toledo Board of Education, she also served as chairman of the insurance committee and board vacancies committee. She was the legislative liaison for the Toledo Public Schools.

At the state level, she was a member of the Large City Schools Commission of Ohio and nationally. She served as the representative to the National Urban Boards of Education and was a director on the Council of Great City Schools. She also belonged to the Black Caucus of School Board Members.

While on the Toledo Board of Education, she received many awards, among them a bible from the Gideons for recognition of Christian leadership. On September 28, 1999, Dr. Adams was honored along with other former leaders of Toledo Public Schools, during its 150-year-celebration. She was recognized as community spirited person, who had given vast amounts of time to help children and one who had the courage to make tough decisions.

In 1980, she was named “Mother of the Year” by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was nominated for this award by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

Dr. Adams and five of her children comprised the multi-talented gospel group known as “The Adams Family Singers.” She wrote and directed the musical narratives for which they became well-known throughout the state through their personal appearances, records, radio and television programs. Three of their most memorable television specials were “In Quest of Freedom,” “Shades of Autumn” and an Easter Special entitled “For God So Loved, Why Can’t We?”

Dr. Adams narrated “Lincoln Portraits,” with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra in a concert during their neighborhood concert series. Prior to that time it had narrated by such luminaries as Coretta Scott King and Adlai Stevenson. It had also been narrated nationally by the four living presidents at that time – President William Clinton, President George H.W. Bush, President Gerald Ford and President Ronald Reagan who was represented by his wife Nancy Reagan. During the second half of that concert with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, “The Adams Family Singers” sang songs from their narrative “In Quest Of Freedom”. All of the music was arranged from the original score by the eldest daughter, Paula, a highly gifted intuitive musician.

In March 2002, she was recognized as one of the “Committed Women In The History Of Toledo” on Channel 13. She was previously featured on many radio and television programs.

In October, 2005, Dr. Adams was given a special tribute by the Toledo Branch NAACP for her years of dedicated service to that organization and to the community.

On October 14, 2006, she was named a “Legend” by the African American Legacy Project.

On December 29, 2009, Dr. Adams was a recipient of a Glass Key Award given by the Mayor of Toledo, Carty Finkbeiner for her and her family’s service to the Toledo community.

(Continued on Page 7)
Most Likely to Be Among Long-Term Unemployed, Relatively Few Blacks Get Unemployment Insurance Benefits

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

Dr. Samantha P. Adams

(Continued from Page 6)

On March 17, 2011, Dr. Adams was married to the late Mr. Paul L. Adams for over 62 years until his passing on July 14, 2005. She still resided in their home until her health required a move to a nursing home with her daughter Cecelia and for the last fourteen months, she needed assistance at Lake Park at Paramount, a Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek. She was the mother of six children, the grandmother of six grandchildren and great-grandmother to one great-grandson. All of them, to her great pleasure, reside in Toledo.

She leaves to treasure her memory as sister, Glacie Reed; daughters Cecelia M. Adams, Ph.D., Denise Adams Onyia (A. Edward), Dr. (Rev.) Karen M. Adams Ferguson, M.D. (Nathaniel E., Sr.); son James Lawrence Adams (Bonita), godson Edward C. Ellis (Diane); grandchildren LaTochta M. Adams Brown, Tamika C. Adams, Nikemdi N. Onyia, Cecelia Amanda Ferguson; grandsons Joseph Paul Ferguson, Sr. (Stelana), Daniel Scott Ferguson; great grandson Joseph Paul Ferguson, Jr.; sister-in-law Verina Adams; nieces Dawn Rita Henderson, Jacqueline A. Redd (Charles), Cynthia McBratney; nephews Fred A. Adams, Jr., Douglas F. Adams, Theodore “Oscar” Henderson, Jr. and...

A Program funded by K.E.V.N., Inc.

What: An introductory tutoring course for students coming into Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, II, Geometry or Pre-calculus for the 2012-2013 year

Who: AJ King

Ottawa Hills Senior Class of 2013

Ivy League Prospect with 4.1 current GPA and ACT composite score 30 (ACT Math 33)

Where: Robinson Middle School

1075 Horace Street, Toledo, OH

When: July and August: Monday - Thursday 11am - 3pm

Availability: Students may come anytime for the 11am - 3pm hours

Price: $10/hour

For more information please contact:

AJ - (419) 706-7854 or Judy Ellis - (419) 349-7687
Going It Alone: Never Let Them See You Sweat!

By Carla Yvette Leonard
Sojourner’s Truth Society Editor

I had the opportunity to attend the Brian McKnight concert this past weekend and, as with any social event or occasion, I put in the usual “over-the-top” time and effort dressing and primping in preparation for a fun evening out. After applying the finishing touches, checking and re-checking myself in the mirror, with ticket in hand and nervous anticipation, I headed to the concert . . . ALONE.

While there are plenty of places I don’t mind going solo, there are others that I would much rather attend with a companion or group of friends, primarily to escape the stigma associated with going places alone.

But what do you do if there’s an event you really want to attend and there’s no one available to go with you? Don’t let fear or social pressure stop you. I’m no expert but I’d love to share what worked for me:

Dress to impress – People may be inclined to give you a double take if you’re alone but it could also be that outdated outfit, or under done hairdo that’s drawing the extra attention. When we look good, we feel good so spend the extra time on your appearance. Superficial? Maybe, but confidence is key when going places by yourself.

Smile – No one wants to approach a person who looks mean. Smiling warms your appearance and makes you more approachable. If someone does approach you, be sure to make eye contact and engage them in conversation.

Never let them see you sweat – Regardless of how awkward and nervous you may feel, don’t stand around looking awkward and nervous. People respond to the energy we project so as the saying goes, “put your game face on” and put the butterflies in check.

Just do it! – Chances are you’ll run into someone you know anyway and even if you don’t, you’ve challenged yourself and stepped out of your comfort zone. I did, and as you can see, I had a wonderful time!
The Arts Commission presented its second annual SoundTrek on Friday, July 20 in the Uptown area and 11 sites hosted more than three dozen artists representing just about every possible musical genre: jazz, folk, rock, neo-soul/R&B, house, hip-hop, Caribbean, blues, funk, among others and, somewhere along the line, a belly dancer swayed with the music.

Jazz and blues from 4 Deep along with neo-soul with YASU kept folks entertained all evening at The Truth Art Gallery. Vocalist Ramona Collins brought her jazz stylings to the Manos Community Garden. VooDoo Libido played the blues at the Main Library… and on and on all night long.
Hellenic Scholarship Fundraiser

Buster Douglas and LC Clerk of Courts Bernie Quilter

Live Music Lives in Toledo
(Continued from Page 9)

Other sites for the event included: the Glass City Cafe, the Toledo City Paper, Wesley’s, Toledo School for the Arts, Manhattan’s, The Attic, the Ottawa Tavern and Bretz.

The Arts Commission SoundTrek Committee consisted of Co-Chairmen John Eikost and Sarah Skow, along with members Emily Rippe, Catherine Haskins, Mary Larkin and Ryan Bunch.

N. Mattimoe at Wesley’s

Glass City Steel at TSA
Are You Ready To Learn About Brian McKnight?

By Monique Ward
The Truth Contributor

Singer-songwriter, arranger, producer and R&B musician...Is there anything that Brian McKnight can’t do musically? I had the pleasure of speaking with the legendary R&B singer who didn’t mind answering a few personal questions before his arrival in Glass City for his performance this past weekend.

Monique Ward: At what age did you realize that you had such a gifted voice?

Brian McKnight: All my cousins, aunts and uncles, everyone in my family sings, so it’s basically second nature. Walking, talking, singing... It’s all the same thing.

Ward: How long, as of now, have you been in the music business?

McKnight: Since I was 17 so it’s been 25 years at this point.

Ward: It is well-known that you are very skilled in a wide range of instruments. How did you learn to play so many?

McKnight: I’m actually self-taught. I had access to a lot of instruments, and always wanted to figure stuff out. If I had a toy that said “Unbreakable” on it, I would try to figure out how to break it (McKnight chuckles). I had a band in high school so that is how I really learned to play the guitar and the drums. I always felt that if you give a kid an opportunity, he’ll make the best of that opportunity.

Ward: Are you involved with any charitable organizations that you would like us to be aware of?

McKnight: Not necessarily, because then it makes it seem like I’m doing it for that reason. Any opportunity that I have to lend my likeness to aid a good cause, I will. I’ve done everything from breast cancer awareness to St. Jude’s but I’m not personally attached to any one organization.

Ward: What do you think of the music industry today compared to when you first started?

McKnight: Well I’m not in the music business, I’m in the touring business. There’s not a lot that you can do, at least for a 42 year old R&B singer, to be in the music business itself because there are not a lot of outlets. I tour year round, and did 126 shows last year around the world. I never thought that I would call myself old-school and nostalgic, but I’m personally happy being that now. I don’t mean to think about it all the time, my work and everything I do to this day. I don’t create in hopes that people are going to like me or like what I do. I try to be great & if I come up a little short of being great, at least I’m still at the top.

Ward: Thank you for sharing that! Now I have a question for you from my friends... Are you currently single?

McKnight: Yes I am single actually.

Ward: Wow... I must say I’m surprised but I’m sure a lot of women will be happy to hear that. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

McKnight: The only other thing you need to know about me is, if nobody else in this whole world believes in me... but me, there is nothing in this world that I can’t do. There are going to be things that I do right, things I do wrong but I am in control. I knew that at 17 and that’s the way I approach my life, my work and everything I do to this day. I don’t create in hopes that people are going to like me or like what I do. I try to be great & if I come up a little short of being great, at least I’m still at the top.
Brian McKnight Concert at Stranahan Theatre

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

The summer before I started high school, I was sent on an errand by mom and took a little detour. I wound up at Sound Asylum records, browsing tapes and CD’s and came home with Brian McKnight’s debut album. Now, why would a 13-year-old boy be investing his hard earned allowance dollars in music so far beyond his years?

WVOI had been playing “Is This The Way Love Goes” for weeks and it was just the tip of the iceberg. Male R&B singers make music that guys can sometimes relate to, but let’s be honest… those male singers are singing for the ladies.

Upon Brian McKnight’s return to the Glass City this past weekend, after a triumphant career spanning two decades and numerous accolades, it’s clear he is one of black music’s most treasured artists. It was also clear that he was singing for the ladies. Lol.

Even though some men were at the show “against their will,” some were there as fans.

Either way, the show kept the ladies swooning from the opening notes to when the house lights came on. McKnight began his set with the lights off. Not just dim, but off.

Setting a mood similar to a darkened bedroom as he crooned to the ladies while not even on stage yet, all I could do was sit back in amazement as females all over Stranahan Theatre began to lose their minds.

“Well played, Brian. Well played” is all I could think.

Once on stage, his towering height shocked a few once the lights came up. He settled into an intimate show where he encouraged audience interaction, which… in Toledo, is never in short supply anyway. It never fails.

His catalog is so memorable that everyone knew each song within the first few bars.

His catalog is so extensive, that pretty much every single selection was abbreviated to the first verse, chorus and bridge with few exceptions.

McKnight was masterful in the way he dictated the emotional tone of the show.

Knowing when to turn the charm on full blast and even when to crack a joke. The ladies surely enjoyed themselves but from what I could tell, a great time was held by all.

It was a great event brought to Toledo by the owners of Our Brothers Place.

Internationally known smooth/contemporary jazz artist Michael Franks starting the night off was a brilliant touch as R&B fans were exposed to a legend that even Brian McKnight admitted was an inspiration although he was the headliner.

This was the kind of event that can make anyone proud to attend an urban entertainment event in Toledo, Ohio — certainly worth the price of admission, well organized and memorable for all the right reasons.

Shout outs:
Tanya McCadney. A friend of mine on Facebook who I’ve had a few convo’s with here and there who ended up being serenaded by Brian McKnight in front of everyone on the eve of her birthday!

My parents for playing Michael Franks when I was a little tyke.

My artist and friend Darron Scott and his longtime girlfriend Apple for letting me be the third wheel. Darron found more inspiration and Apple spent the entire night swooning and grinning just like the other ladies… good times!

Thanks for reading, everyone.

Peace.
Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY’13-13, (Project # 0106-13-847) for Nitschke R2 Addition to 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 43615 before 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 14, 2012. 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 Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $100.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Thomas Stuckey of Poggemeyer Design Group at 419-352-7537. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 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: 10%. Project Estimate: $1,199,203.00; Breakdown: General Cont: $810,478.00; Plumbing & Fire Protection: $65,000.00; HVAC: $89,150.00 and Electrical: $118,160.00.

Account Executive
The Truth is seeking qualified candidates for advertising sales positions. If you have sales experience, are organized, can work successfully by setting your own hours, call us at 419-243-5007.

Help Wanted
You can work from home – we’re looking for reps. Call 808-963-5241 or check us out on the Internet – joannfimmelwildtree.com

Classifieds...

CLASSIFIEDS
July 25, 2012
Page 13

The Black Marketplace

2 & 3 BR Homes City Wide!
Traditional financing & lease w/option available for some.
Call Montalena @ 419.320.5224 and follow me...Your Guide To Home!!

Hillandale - $87,000/REduced
Ottawa Hills condo, 1440 sq. ft., 2 full baths, location, location, location. Bright home, new carpet, newly painted. Spacious one floor. Lots of storage, private garden. One great unit.
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Seaway Asset Management
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Debt Relief? Chapter 7 Bankruptcy
$650.00 plus court costs
FREE ADVICE
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a debt relief agency per the pky code

$16,000 Down Payment Assistance
May include current renters if you qualify. Unique two-story brick home located Old South End. Totally remodeled! Over 1,500 sq. ft. home finished with appliances. 2 bedrooms, large kitchen, large living room, large bedroom. Large closets. Entire unit for entertainment. Must see!
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The C. Brown Funeral Home, Inc.
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Plaintiff Wanted
Church looking for a dedicated, responsible and dependable Gospel Pianist to play for Sunday morning services.
For more information contact: 419-215-9020

Houses For Rent
Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrigerator, Section 8 OK
MVP Property Management
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Debt Relief?
Chapter 7 Bankruptcy
$650.00 plus court costs
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a debt relief agency per the pky code

Duplex for Purchase or Lease
Great investment project! 4 Bedroom combination! Lower in need for owner or tenants. Both units contain newer furnace, hot water tanks, new windows, updated electrical systems. Both homes of large living area and lots of storage space. W967 Mitered tile. Easy access for showings.
Seaway Asset Management
Call Kimberly Brown - 419.830.7897

Pianist Wanted
Church looking for a dedicated, responsible and dependable Gospel Pianist to play for Sunday morning services.
For more information contact: 419-215-9020

Great Credit or Bad Need a Car? New or Used
Call JP the Stork He Delivers
419.320.0863

Woodley Court - $259,000
6 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, 3498 sq. ft. Custom-built home. Must see to believe. Located in the quiet Old Tecumseh subdivision. Built for entertaining or large family. Lots to show and ready for buyer.
Seaway Asset Management
Call Kimberly Brown - 419.830.7897

Wanted to Buy/Diabetes Supplies
Earn up to $12 per box of 100 test stripsMust expire after August 2012. Leave labels on boxes. We remove and shred. Call 419-740-7162 and leave message.
INTERESTED BIDDERS:

TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – DISTRICT SECURITY & N.O.C. RENOVATION AT DEVILBISS ACADEMIC AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on August 15, 2012, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers’ Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the District Security & N.O.C. Renovation at DeVilbiss Academic and Technology Center, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Thomas Porter Architects, and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

Bid Documents for the project may be examined at the F.W. Dodge plan room in Columbus, Builders Exchange in Toledo, University of Toledo – Capacity Building, E.O.P.A. – Hamilton Building, Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and The Plan Room in Ann Arbor, Construction Association of Michigan, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and Ohio Construction News. Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting July 20, 2012 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for Tuesday August 21, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at DeVilbiss Academic and Technology Center located at 255 Upton Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43613. We will meet in the rear (west) of the building.

If you have any questions or a need for additional information, please direct all questions in writing to Patrick Stutler@lgb-llc.com, by phone at (419) 776-5600, or fax at (877) 281-0784.

Sealed bids will be received for:

District Security and N.O.C. Renovations at DeVilbiss

Estimates

Bid Item No. 1 General Trades, Stitework & Landscaping $310,000.00

Bid Item No. 2 Fire Protection $17,000.00

Bid Item No. 3 Plumbing & Mechanical $214,000.00

Bid Item No. 4 Electrical & Technology $135,000.00

Bid Item No. 5 FFE $53,000.00

Total: $729,000.00

Sealed bids will be for:

Legal Notice

Bids will be received by Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until 3:00 p.m., August 20, 2012 for the selection of Vendor(s) to provide Non-Emergency Medicaid and Title XX Transportation Services for eligible LCDJFS clients. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Qualifications. The contract period will be from approximately October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

No bids will be accepted after 3:00 p.m., August 20, 2012; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFQ will not be accepted.

The Request for Qualification will be available on August 1, 2012. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from August 1, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. to August 10, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email, by Michelle Niedermier at niederm@odjfs.state.oh.us by August 10, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on August 13, 2012. If any changes are made to the RFQ as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFQ will be posted on the website address (noted above). This notice is posted, as of August 1, 2012, at http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

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

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

Bld. 48-13-RFQ-01

The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Instrument Mechanics.

Overview
The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is $32.89 per hour. After completion of a six month probationary period, the rate of pay is $34.92.

Scope of Work
Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is inside shop as well as outside in all weather conditions. Perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned. Candidate will be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work, participate in training programs as assigned and understand and comply with Toledo Refining work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

Qualifications
Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a High School diploma or equivalent, and hold a current driver’s license.

Successful completion of a state approved Instrument Mechanic apprenticeship program or a 2 year Technical Degree in Process Control with no less than 4 years work experience. Equivalent work is no less than 8 years as an Instrument Mechanic. Successful candidates must possess First Class Instrument Mechanic work experience and First Class Instrument Mechanic skills. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Ability to read blueprints as it pertains to instrumentation. Ability to work from written and oral directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work, function as a member of a team to get work done, perform tasks in any craft as incidental work, and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation and repair of refinery equipment. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs.

Unusual Working Conditions
Must be able to perform physically-active assignments including work on high structures and within confined spaces. Mandatory overtime is required as well as occasional shift work required.

Conditions of Employment
Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; ability to demonstrate basic computer skills; and pass a post offer employment physical, background check and drug screening.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, August 5, 2012. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter.

All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbenergy.com and selecting the Career tab. On the career page, candidates can view our current job opportunities and apply to desired position.

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY13-13, (Project # 0106-13-847) for Nitschke R2 Addition 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, August 14, 2012. 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 Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $100.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Thomas Stuckey of Poggemeyer Design Group at 419-352-7357. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 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: 10%. Project Estimate: $1,199,203.00; Breakdown: General Const: $810,478.00; Plumbing & Fire Protection: $65,000.00; HVAC: $89,150.00 and Electrical: $118,160.00.
The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring

First Class Maintenance Welders

Overview
The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is $32.89 per hour. After completion of a six month probationary period, the rate of pay is $34.92.

Scope of Work
Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is inside shop as well as outside in all weather conditions. Perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned. Candidate will be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work, participate in training programs as assigned, and understand and comply with Toledo Refining work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

Qualifications
Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a HS diploma or GED equivalent; and, hold a current and valid Welder’s license. Completion of a state approved Welder apprenticeship program with no less than 4 years work experience. Equivalent work is no less than 8 years as a Welder. Successful candidates must possess First Class Pipe Welder work experience and First Class Pipe Welder skills. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Ability to read blueprints as it pertains to welding. Ability to work from written and oral directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work, function as a member of a team to get work done; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation and repair of refinery equipment. Candidate must be 6G certified on pipe in SMAW and GTAW. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. In addition, pipelifting experience is preferred. Please be prepared to provide copies of welding qualifications test upon request.

Unusual Working Conditions
Must be able to perform physically-active assignments including work on high structures and within confined spaces. Mandatory overtime is required as well as occasional shift work required.

Conditions of Employment
Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; interview (if requested); reference check; background check and drug screening.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, August 5, 2012. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter. Please be prepared to provide copies of welding qualifications test upon request.

All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbenergy.com and selecting the Career tab. Once on the career page, candidates can view our current job opportunities and apply to desired position.

Account Executive
The Truth is seeking qualified candidates for advertising sales positions. If you have sales experience, are organized, can work successfully by setting your own hours, call us at 419-243-0007

Request for Proposals
Printing and Reproduction Services
RFP #12-R014
The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Printing and Reproduction Svcs. Received in accordance with law until Friday, August 14, 2012, 3PM ET. Documents available at: 43S Nebraska Ave.,Toledo, OH 43604, 419-259-9529 (TTY 419-259-9529) or w w w. l u c a s m h a. o r g.

Proposers required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Section 3 Compliance Applicable.

NORTHGATE APARTMENTS
610 STICKNEY AVENUE
Now Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments
Mature Adult Community for Persons 55 and Older. Rent Based on Income. Heat, Appliances, Drapes, Carpeting Included. Call (419) 729-7118 for details.

EQUAl HOUSING OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted.
Call 419-874-4371

House for Rent
2 to 3 bedrooms
837 Nebraska
419-244-6463 from 9 am to 10 pm
$450 per month

For Rent
Attention Seniors: house for rent
Two bedrooms, one level, just renovated
Immediate occupancy
Call 419-708-2340 - Demetria

Representatives Needed
Work from home. Part time and Full time positions open. Income based on hours. Call 608-963-5241 or inquire at: www.joannefinn.mywildtree.com

Help Wanted
You can work from home – we’re looking for reps. Call 608-963-5241 or check us out on the Internet – www.joannefinn.mywildtree.com

“A DoU enjoy working with people of all ages? Are you good at organizing people?
Toledo CDC is looking for a Community Organizer. Anyone interested in this position, please go to www.toledocdc.org, select the contact us button and complete the contact form. Please be sure to put in the message box that you are interested in community organizing and briefly list your experience. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!”
Welcome to the Soulcial Scene

I’m Carla Yvette and I LOVE TOLEDO! It’s with an appreciation for our City and a pride in our community that I introduce you to the Soulcial Scene . . . Our Community the Soul of the city.

The Soulcial Scene is about sharing in the events and activities that are important to you. It’s about coming together comfortably in our surroundings. Our Community being The Soul of the City refers to an understanding of our contribution and our connection and not being ashamed of whom we are. It refers to not minimizing our impact and openly embracing, celebrating and exposing the great and exciting events and activities that take place throughout our neighborhoods in our city.

It’s about not being defined by the current negative state of affairs that have impacted our community but rather uncovering the hidden treasures of our truest legacy, which is our dance, our song, our style and inspiration. In a word . . . our Soul-cialization.

It’s also about taking and fostering pride in our communities and most importantly it’s about the people of our community. IT’S ABOUT YOU!!

I invite you to join me monthly as The Truth recap’s the events that highlight who we are as we share your accomplishments and the moments that make you laugh, instill pride and bring you joy.

I believe a city’s strength and success are reflective of the people of that City. I also believe the Soul of our city is found right here - in our communities, OUR SCENE!

“McKnight” time certainly was the “right” time for these Glass City concert goers who attended the Brian McKnight concert Saturday night at the Stranahan Theater. The event sponsored by Brothers Entertainment Production hosted an eclectic, enthusiastic crowd who also enjoyed the hilariously, fresh comedy of Comedian Speedy, and the smooth jazz of legendary icon singer, song writer Michael Franks. More Pics on 8-9

The eighth annual African American Festival at The University of Toledo’s Scott Park Campus was a weekend-long celebration - prayer breakfast, parade, food, music, rides for children and vendors galore. Toledoans turned out in impressive numbers to support the event presented by the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. The initial turnout of 600 visitors for the inaugural event eight years ago has grown to more than 25,000. More Pics on 8-9