The Return of the Hometown Hero

Erik Kynard, Jr. Returns to Rogers High School
Prayer and Pressure

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

Increasingly agitated and members are growing in consciousness. This “dis-ease” among the gangs might possibly lead some prodigal youth to “come to themselves” one day and return to the space of their true identity and heritage.

However, while many see prayer as a one-way plea for the Divine to give us what we need or desire, real prayer is the process of surrendering the obstacles which prevent us from doing what we need to do to “make a difference about which we are praying.”

Our own response and action may suggest that there is, at the least, a “divine troubling” of consciousness. This “divine troubling” of consciousness may suggest that the Divine is “taking care” of the answer in what is more accurately a two-way conversation.

Quite often, the answer involves applying direct pressure to the source of our dilemma. This prescriptive proved effective following last week’s tragic Moody Manor shooting death of one year old Keondra Hooks.

Without waiting for divine intervention, the community expressed its outrage and let it be known that we were not going to stand for this despicable tragedy and that we expected the issue to be “taken care” of.

Mayor Michael Bell did not wait for a miracle to result from a passive “spiritual” petition but actively dedicated the City assets needed to solve the crime. Police Chief Derrick Diggs immediately put faith into action by assembling a high-power followed task force and by putting “boots on the ground.”

A knowledgeable and skilled African-American detective was then placed in charge of the investigation. Patrol officers shifted from routine patrols and “turned up the heat” by not allowing the streets to continue to operate in business-as-usual mode. The pressure, applied by the community, government and the police then forced “the streets” themselves to uncharacteristically “give up” the alleged perpetrators.

The police department feels that, with the apprehension of three suspects, it now has a solid case.

Yet, even with the arrests, our prayers are far from being completely answered.

While the black-on-black violence grasps our attention more forcefully, it is the subtle violence perpetrated by a system of “white male patriarchy and capitalism,” described by bell hooks and Patricia Hill Collins as a “matrix of domination” which perpetuates itself on the backs of poor, black and brown people that is just as or more devastating. Religion is also sometimes caught in this oppressive arrangement which often produces the conditions that lead to violence which occurs in settings like Moody Manor.

The Moody project was built to make money for its investors, the local Catholic diocese. It is the goal to maximize income that perhaps lies at the root of the project’s problems.

Rather than being managed by the diocese, the complex is overseen by Vista Management, a third-party property manager. Third party managers, often, are not as committed to a project or the well-being of the residents as might an owner-managed project whose owners are vested in the neighborhood or community.

There have also been whispers about the poor quality of Moody’s security services. Off-duty officers from the Toledo Police Department are contracted to patrol the area, however, there are questions swirling concerning whether a formal security plan exists, the actual activities of the off duty officers and the monitoring of the officers’ performance.

Finally, no one talks about the well-being or wealth enhancement of Moody’s impoverished residents. Because they are most likely to be unemployed or underemployed single female heads of households, their day-to-day struggles over rent, management policy, security, maintenance and other issues that keep them ill-housed and permanently assigned to a hell-hole of violence and despair rarely make it to our prayer lists or items of concern.

Yet public housing, despite its existing cloud of negativity, can become a venue of empowerment in the context of poor and black families’ struggle for basic shelter and respectability when tenant councils are established or when the residents and community organize in order to obtain better conditions and investment in their well-being.

That result is unlikely to occur without pressure. So while it’s great to perform sympathetic and supportive prayer rituals in order to help people cope, we also need to move from passive to participatory prayer, that which places pressure on oppressive and exploitative systems to provide those people who depend on them with additional options and better life chances.

Anything less will leave the residents pitied and un-empowered, causing our prayers to be ineffectual.

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

Community Calendar

August 22-24 and 27
St. Paul AME Zion Gospel Explosion Revival: Services nightly at 6:30 pm; Sunday at 11 am

August 25
St. Paul MBC “Annual Rainbow Tea;” 2 to 5 pm; Reynolds Road Reception Center; Glorified, spiritual fun experience
The Friendly Center Auditions: For Community Talent Show; 10 am to 3 pm: 419-243-1289
St. Stephens COGIC Rummage Sale: 9 am to 3 pm
Mt. Nebo Church Food and School Supplies Giveaway: Family Food Center; Noon to 4 pm

August 26
St. Paul MBC Annual Worship Service: Wildwood Metro Park Ward Pavilion Area

August 28
Self improvement Workshop: “Dying to Love;” Domestic Violence and the Men Against It;” 6 to 8 pm; Lagrange Branch Library; 419-322-5107 or 419-283-1017 or 419-973-0248

August 30-September 2
Latter Rain Conference: The Armory Church: 419-537-9736

September 14
The Friendly Center Community Talent Show: 6 pm; Youth between ages 6 – 20 – dance, voice and poetry: 419-243-1289

September 16
Mt. Zion church Praise @ Scott Park: 10:30 am to 3 pm; Musical concert, picnic, games, crafts: 419-389-3953
Toledo Bikers for Babies: 11 am; 60 mile ride along the Maumee: 567-298-4819

September 21
Northside Family Reunion: 5:30 to 11:30 pm; Sullivan Center
Gesu Parish: 419-464-2727, 419-205-1735 or 419-535-9567

September 30
Friendship Baptist Church Celebrates the Recovering Community; 419-531-3242

October 2-3
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Rummage Sale: 9 am to 7 pm on the 2nd; 9 am to 1 pm on the 3rd; Many departments, 3 floors, 2 tents
Is This a Can’t or a Won’t Moment?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

As some of you may know and who are frequent readers of the Journal or The Truth newspapers, I have been a nettlesome hawk on the seemingly radical idea (not so…it is really hundreds of years old…it is just late getting amongst us). There is a passion to do things differently. Since the Middle Ages, collective economics has been practiced by societies and ethnic groups for hundreds of years.

Now before your eyes glaze over and you conjure up images of people ranting and raving and running around in bush league dashikis spouting quotes from Chairman Mao, collective economics is not just a political notion but something that has been practiced for centuries.

The concept of collective economics included the Middle Ages trade guilds in Europe by which the craft trades were able to “monopolize” their skills to benefit their members and their offspring.

Money was accumulated and skills were honed and passed on to the next generation and the next and so on and so on.

The guilds exercised considerable political and economic clout with the local politicians and with neighboring business concerns and which also insured the longevity of their craft and their influence.

The guilds could muster loans to their members with tight guidelines and they would have enforcement mechanisms to insure compliance for the common welfare of the group.

Now, shift that same concept to Toledo 2012. It is obvious that the so-called “inner city” has long been in need of an economic collective that could collaborate with like-minded entities and do systematic development of neighborhoods and use their numbers and accompanying monetary clout to influence legislation for the common good and to make sure that the ears of the politicos were properly pinched.

Like a tired record that is running and running, I will say it again, we have the economic wherewithal to formulate such “guilds” or economic collectives…we just do not have the passion to do so amongst ourselves.

The reasons why would fill books but the gist of the matter is that if we are serious about getting out of the economic basement and taking control of our communities, it will only begin with us.

For those who are holding on for a savior coming on a white horse and with bags of money, that will not happen in this lifetime. It is up to us to do so and by us.

Sorry, no White Knight will be rising up for us.

We will be the Dark Knight that will have to rise or we will consign ourselves to the historical dustbin and take the 40 stripes minus one for our repeated failure to come together and put this long overdue economic piece together.

What could such an energizing economic guild accomplish within two-10 years? I am glad you asked that salient question.

Try the following on for size and sizzle: (1) economic recovery of dilapidated neighborhoods so that we reconstitute them for viable housing (no CDC’s here or a land bank) and sell them or rent them out at reasonable market rates, (2) serious reward monies to capture and convict those vermin in the various neighborhoods who are passing themselves off as members of our community. You know the types. The ones who kill babies and rob churches and vandalize property and sell drugs and just pimp…pimp…pimp.

They have no respect for themselves and certainly no respect for you.

So why would people who know who are doing these things be giving people of color (or anyone for that matter) but yet remain silent when they can, confidentially, inform on these human buzzards is beyond belief; (3) a “brain bank” to both encourage youths to remain in Toledo for an education and then to remain in Toledo to seek employment.

If everyone leaves for the city of bright lights, the future architects of reconstructing the communities whence they hailed are missing in action; (4) political action groups to mobilize the vote so that the downtown fat cats do not take you for granted and won’t act stupid when you come before them with valid ideas for implementation; (5) programs to go door-to-door in order to stem the tide of kids having kids and kids entering the juvenile court system and (6) sponsorship of educational and recreational programs that foster a sense of community, commitment and a zeal to learn in order to avoid bad behavior by people who do not have your best interest at heart. (Take note: The Frederick Douglass Community Association is doing a yeoman’s job with a host of activities at their

The idea is very simple: Each church will “tithe” (the word normally associated with 10 percent) its weekly deposits to a common fund managed by bonded community people and with an associated skills bank of CPA’s, lawyers, financial managers, etc.

That group would, with community input, implement plans that would accomplish the above six goals (or more).

We would also establish community venues so that the hundreds of thousands of dollars that we spend yearly as a people on wedding halls, gala celebrations, meetings, luncheons and dinners would be channeled right back into our coffers.

Merchants who would be a part of this undertaking, would be assisted voluntarily monthly “tax” of X percent that would go to this common fund and, in return, we would heavily patronize them for their goods and services.

Other cities across the country have prototypes of these types of undertakings and in our past history, we have had virtual small towns and villages wherein this was the norm until the dominant white community rose up in anger and jealousy and wiped out such undertakings (Rosewood, Florida and a community outside of Tulsa, OK (once known as the Black Wall Street) come to mind).

We have only ourselves to blame for some of our miserable economic existence in the sense that if someone comes on your property and leaves litter, you have two choices. You can sit there and bemoan the presence of the litter or you can get up and pick up the trash and make it so that they will not do it again.

So, in closing, this is probably one of the dozens of appeals that I have written over the past 20-plus years trying to motivate the “noble to stand up and plow” but…we will see.

Is the above radical?

Answer: Do snakes have hips? Do chickens have lips?

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@Junocom
African Art Has Arrived!!

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

The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM

See more art online at www.thetruthtoledo.com

RESTORE Inc., is hosting its third annual Dads & Kids Kamp Out. This year’s event takes place on Friday, September 7 at 5 p.m. through Sunday, September 9 at 12:00 p.m. at Camp Miakonda, Sylvania ave, in Sylvania OH.

Each year more and more dads attend the Dads & Kids Kamp Out and have made memories that their children will cherish for a lifetime. Registration is only $40.00 per dad and all of his children. Registration includes all meals, snacks, and fun filled activities. www.restorefathers.org . This year’s event will even be more memorable as the organizers have something special for dads who attend this year’s event. A limited number of scholarships, tents and sleeping bags are available to loan while they last.

“Childhood is a short space in the life cycle and children need positive shared experiences like those created during our Kamp Out. I run into Dads and kids in the community wanting to know when the next campout will be. Research confirms that children do better in every measure of development when there is a responsibly involved father in their lives,” said Mark Robinson, founder. “We have kids of all ages and abilities.” Early registration is encouraged. For registration and information please visit restorefathers.org .

R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc. was founded in 2006 by Responsible Fatherhood Advocate, Mark Robinson. R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Inc, is a faith based organization whose Mission is to restore fathers back to the head of the household through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. R.E.S.T.O.R.E. provides referrals and linkages to community resources that help fathers meet the needs of their families, staff development training and raising community awareness to the important role father’s play in the lives of their children.

Robinson is a social worker by profession and currently serving on the Ohio Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families (OPNFF) Board, which is a statewide collaboration that seeks to advance a fatherhood and family agenda at the state and local level.

For information please call 567-698-3788 or 419-377-1488 or email restorefathers@bex.net restorefathers.org
FAQ for Job Seekers

- What is a reverse job fair? A reverse job fair is an event where job seekers are the exhibitors. They construct displays and receive on-the-spot interviews from employers.

- What is the cost to register for the Reverse Job Fair? There is no cost for job seekers to participate in the reverse job fair. All participants MUST complete a registration form and attend the ‘Reverse Job Fair Orientation’ workshop. Job seekers who do not attend the workshop are not permitted to participate.

- How do job seekers register? There are two methods to register either (a) Email treynolds@eopa.org and request a registration form, complete and fax the form back to 419.242.8263. Please write on the subject line of your email: Registration Form RJF 2012 or (b) Visit EOPA at 505 Hamilton Street and pick-up a registration form at the front desk and return completed copy to the receptionist. (c) Visit us online at www.eopa.org and download the application and fax to 419.242.8263. There is no registration at the door of the event.

- How do job seekers seek further information about this event? Detailed information is available via voicemail recording: dial 419.255.1082, ext. 2233.

- What time should job seekers arrive to set-up? The scheduled time for job seekers to set-up their table is 9:45am to 10:30am. Doors will open at 9:45am.

- When is the “Reverse Job Fair Orientation” workshop scheduled? To help job seekers prepare for this event (All participants are required to attend this workshop), EOPA is offering a workshop. The class times are the following: 10:00 am-11:00 am and 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. To register, call (419) 255-1082, Ext. 2233. The last date to register is September 4th on or before 3:00pm. See reverse side for dates.

- Who are the employers attending the Reverse Job Fair 2012? This information will be released at the ‘Reverse Job Fair Orientation’ workshop.

Where should registrants (registered job seekers/employers) park? Free parking for all registrants is in the Main Library’s parking garage. Upon entry into the garage be sure to pull a ticket and inform the event receptionist to provide you with a VIP ticket.

**Senator Brown Applauds**

**New Jobs in Toledo**

Chrysler’s $500 million investment creates 1,105 new jobs at Toledo Assembly complex

**Special to The Truth**

State Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo) released the following statement regarding the 1,105 new job openings posted by Chrysler on Tuesday, August 14.

The new positions are a part of Chrysler’s $500 million investment in the Toledo Assembly complex announced last November.

“I am very pleased and encouraged to see these new positions being added at the Toledo Assembly complex,” said Senator Brown. “This is a great step forward for Toledo’s job market, and my hope is that Chrysler’s investment in Toledo will serve as an example for others in the area. Through cooperation, hard work and support, local employers along with state and local officials should continue working together to create and maintain high quality jobs in northwest Ohio.”

**Geoffrey Canada Coming to Town**

*Special to The Truth*

On Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7:30 a.m., Geoffrey Canada, founder and CEO of Harlem Children’s Zone and a nationally-known education figure, is headlining United Way of Greater Toledo’s Campaign Kickoff presented by Marshall & Melhorn, LLC.

The event is open to the public and will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg. Admission is free and consists of breakfast, followed by Canada’s keynote addressing school-community partnerships and how they lead to success for children, families, and neighborhoods. “We are so fortunate to have Mr. Canada joining us for our campaign kick-off breakfast,” said Jane Moore, United Way of Greater Toledo’s interim president and CEO. “He has had remarkable results in the 100-block Harlem Children’s Zone and we are excited to hear more about how we could incorporate some of those ideas here to support our schools and improve outcomes for kids and their families.”

After Canada’s address, United Way will share the latest about their work and also announce the campaign goal for the 2012 United Way Campaign. Additionally, attendees will observe a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in commemoration of September 11. Seating is limited for this exciting event. Please register at unitedwayoutodos.org/kickoff or by calling 419-254-4667.

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Second Chance at Education Begins for 50 Local Residents Through New Gateway to College Program at Owens

Fifty local residents are taking advantage of a second chance to realize their fullest academic and career potential as Owens Community College recently welcomed its first Gateway to College student class with the start of the Fall Semester. Owens is the only academic institution in Ohio to offer the program, which serves students who have dropped out of high school or are at risk of dropping out.

For Gateway to College students Larasa Burton and Theresa Brazzel, the new educational program represents hope for a brighter future for themselves and their families.

“My goal is to be successful,” explained Burton, who resides in Toledo and has ambitions of a career in theatre. “I have had many struggles in my life. This program offers a big chance at getting both my high school diploma and a college education.”

“I really had a problem concentrating in high school,” stated Brazzel of Toledo. “I am excited that Gateway to College will provide me with the support that I need both academically and emotionally. My ultimate goal is to become a registered nurse. Know I can reach my goal.”

Owens’ first Gateway to College student class recently participated in a Gateway to College Kick-Off Ceremony at the College’s Learning Center at The Source in Toledo of which both Burton and Brazzel along with fellow Gateway to College classmates were in attendance.

Gateway to College is designed for young adults ages 16 to 21 who have dropped out of high school or are significantly behind in credits and unlikely to graduate. The program enables them to complete their high school diploma requirements while simultaneously earning college credit toward an associate degree or certificate.

Up to 150 students from Toledo Public Schools will be served through the program over the next three years. Students must meet specific criteria for entrance into the program and will be dually enrolled at Toledo Public Schools and Owens Community College until they complete their high school diploma. The program is free to students and covers tuition, fees and books, as well as lunch and transportation to the College’s Learning Center at The Source in downtown Toledo.

Students are placed into small learning communities during their first (Foundation) term, and together they take classes in reading, writing, math and college skills. After completing the Foundation term, students transition to the comprehensive campus, taking classes with the general student population. Throughout their enrollment in the program, students receive one-on-one advising and support from resource specialists who act as coaches, mentors and advisors.

The wrap-around support of the resource specialist keeps students on the right track for success.

Students graduate from Gateway to College once they have completed their high school diploma requirements. Nationally, Gateway to College students accrue an average of 33 college credits by the time they graduate from the program, putting them well on their way to earning a college credential.

Owens is one of over 30 community and technical colleges across the country currently offering the Gateway to College program.

For more information about the Gateway to College program, call (419) 661-2850 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 2850, or e-mail at gateway@owens.org.

NAACP & NEA Join Forces to Register & Educate Voters

NAACP organizers train 70 NEA activists from around the Country to register and turn out voters ahead of 2012 Election

With so much at stake in the upcoming election, the NAACP and the National Education Association (NEA) are teaming up to register, educate and activate hundreds of thousands of voters ahead of the 2012 elections.

“This partnership between NEA and NAACP on voter rights is part of a shared agenda that will reach beyond the ballot box in November,” said Becky Pringle, NEA secretary-treasurer. “We’ll continue to work as partners, combining our influence and power to fight for jobs programs, economic justice and fair housing, and adequate and equitable funding of public education. We are proud to be part of this tremendous movement, just as we were proud to fight for voting rights in the 1960s.”

Over the past weekend, seasoned NAACP field organizers engaged local NEA activists in a two-day training with workshops focused on voter registration/activation tools. Participants also attended a session on the new voter suppression laws like cuts to early voting and strict government-issued voter photo ID requirements that are emerging across the country and could prevent millions of eligible voters from casting a ballot. The people most affected by these laws are disproportionately people of color, women, seniors, blue-collar workers and students.

“In the last two years, more states have passed more laws pushing more voters out of the ballot box than at any time since the rise of Jim Crow,” stated NAACP President Benjamin Todd Jealous. “The extremists behind these laws know that the right to vote is the gateway to protecting so many of the other rights we care about, including the right to quality public

Continued on Page 12
The Blade and Library Announce Fall 2012 Authors! Authors! Lineup

Stan Lee *** Hill Harper *** John Grogan

Special to The Truth

The Blade and the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library are pleased to announce the Fall 2012 Authors! Authors! lineup, which includes Marvel Comics Stan Lee scheduled on Thursday, September 27; CSI:NY actor and author Hill Harper scheduled on Wednesday, October 17, and Marley & Me bestselling-author John Grogan scheduled on Thursday, November 15.

All three Authors! Authors! appearances are scheduled to take place at the Stranahan Theater, 4645 Heatherdowns Boulevard and will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 per person and $8 for students with identification. Tickets are scheduled to be available for purchase beginning this Friday, August 24 at all Toledo-Lucas County Public Library locations and are limited in quantity.

This exciting community series is now in its 18th year and welcomes bestselling authors, such as Lee, Harper and Grogan, to Toledo as they discuss their writing and careers, answer questions and in some instances, sign books.

- Stan Lee, Chairman, Marvel Comics (Thursday, September 27) - Lee is known to millions as the man whose superheroes propelled Marvel to its preeminent position in the comic book industry. Author of more than a dozen best-selling books including How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way, Bring on the Bad Guys and The Superhero Women. *At Mr. Lee’s special request, no photographs nor autographs will be allowed during his Toledo stopover.*

- Hill Harper, CSI:NY actor and Author (Wednesday, October 17) - Harper is a film, television and stage actor, and author. An alumnus of Harvard Law School, he is best known for his portrayal of Dr. Sheldon Hawkes in the CBS drama CSI: NY. His fourth book, The Wealth Cure: Putting Money in Its Place was published in 2011. His books written to reach out to young people, Letters to a Young Brother, and Letters to a Young Sister were recognized with top awards from organizations such as the American Library Association and the NAACP.

- John Grogan, Best-selling Author (Thursday, November 15) - Grogan is an award-winning newspaper columnist. His first book, Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World’s Worst Dog, was a number one international bestseller with three million copies in print and rights sold in more than two dozen languages.

At each program, authors will speak for about an hour, followed by a short question and answer session. Following Harper and Grogan’s program, both authors will be available to sign copies of their books. Books will be available for purchase throughout the fall 2012 series from Barnes & Noble Booksellers.

“We are thrilled to welcome these powerful authors and American figures to the Toledo area for our local audiences. This series is enlightening, educational, entertaining and affordable for individuals, students and families and is approaching almost 20 years as a worthwhile community event. The Blade and the Library help to bring a piece of the world to the local community with each author’s appearance,” said Clyde Scoles, Library Director.

An anticipated treat for the community, Authors! Authors! has welcomed some of the biggest names - straight off the bestsellers lists - for an evening of discussion, Q&A and book signings. Some of the names from the Authors! Authors! past include Dr. Robert Ballard, Mary Higgins Clark, David Halberstam, Walter Mosley, Bill Keane, Robert Kennedy Jr., Terry McMillan, David McCullough, John Updike, Donna Brazile, and Jonathan Kozol.
Celebration Honors Silver Medal Olympian Erik Kynard

Rogers High School alumni and supporters of all ages crowded the streets surrounding Rogers High School to celebrate fellow alumnus Erik Kynard’s Olympics silver medal on Saturday, August 18.

The festivities began with a parade featuring Toledo Public School athletes and cheerleaders, J.J. Express Drill & Drum Corp, Toledo Horsemens’ Club and Toledo Harley Boyz, then concluded with Olympian Erik Kynard holding his silver medal for the high jump.

“The biggest blessing of all is to be a blessing to someone else. I’m seeing that live in effect today,” said Kynard.

“The turnout was amazing. I thought it was a football game.”

American flags and posters of Kynard waved along the parade route by over 1,000 Toledoans who then filled Rogers’ stadium. The crowd chanted “U.S.A.” and “Erik,” as Kynard received congratulatory tokens from Toledo Public Schools and elected officials.

“Erik, on behalf of Toledo Public Schools, we congratulate you, and welcome you back home to Rogers High School. We’re so proud. You’re a role model for millions of boys and girls because what you’ve done. We invite you to visit any Toledo Public School and share your story with our students.”

Jerome Pecko, Ph.D, TPS superintendent.

Several individuals presented Kynard with tokens of appreciation. Council members Steve Steel and Tyrone Riley presented a proclamation announcing August 18 as Erik Kynard Day; Mayor Michael Bell presented the official key of Toledo and Holy Toledo water and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur presented an American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol. Lucas County Commissioners Pete Gerken, Tina Skeldon Wozniak and Carol Conrado presented the Lucas County frog.

“Erik, you went across to another continent and represented Toledo,” said Bell.

Kynard, Rogers High School alumnus, earned the silver medal during the 2012 London Summer Olympics when he cleared 2.33 meters on August 7. Kynard is a two-time NCAA champion, and currently a senior at Kansas State.

(More on Page 9)
Owens Community College Joins National Program to Train 10,000 Older Workers for New Job Opportunities

Owens Community College has been chosen along with other academic institutions throughout the county to participate in a national program designed to train 10,000 baby boomers over the next three years for new jobs in healthcare, education and social service.

The program is offered by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in cooperation with its member colleges and will ultimately comprise 100 colleges with special training programs for 50+ students. The Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is funded with a $3.2 million grant to AACC provided by Deerbrook Charitable Trust.

"Owens Community College is honored to be chosen as one of the few community colleges in the county to participate in the American Association of Community Colleges’ Plus 50 Encore Completion Program," said Michael Bankey, Ph.D., Owens associate vice president of Workforce and Community Services. "Education opens doors to endless career possibilities. The College looks forward to working with the American Association of Community Colleges and local community organizations in developing an educational program that meets the needs of baby boomers throughout the Northwest Ohio region."

The selected colleges are: Arapahoe Community College (Littleton, Colo.), Black River Technical College (Pocahontas, Ark.), Brevard Community College (Binghamton, N.Y.), John Wood Community College (Quincy, Ill.), Lansing Community College (Lansing, Mich.), PCC Community College (Winterville, N.C.), San Jacinto Community College District (Pasadena, Texas), Southside Virginia Community College (Alberville, Va.), Waubonsee Community College (Aurora, Ill.), West Virginia University at Parkersburg (Parkersburg, W.Va.) and Owens Community College.

In addition to grant funds, the participating colleges gain access to thousands of dollars in marketing materials such as toolkits and training webinars that will make the work of reaching out to students age 50 and over easier. They’ll also benefit from the advice and support of staff at other community colleges that have successfully implemented programs for older learners and understand their unique needs.

"Baby boomers are not like traditional college students. We find that colleges need to adapt how they operate to support their job training needs and educational success," said Mary Sue Vickers, director for the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC.

Baby boomers have increasingly turned to community colleges for help training for new careers. Since 2007, adults age 50 and over have struggled in a job market plagued by record unemployment. Many find they must re-invent their careers and update their skills if they are going to get hired. Careers in healthcare, education and social service also appeal to baby boomers who often have an interest in civic engagement.

Vickers says the program expects to add an additional 89 colleges in 2012 and early 2013 that will help it reach 10,000 baby boomer students by 2015. Grant funding applications for AACC members are available now at www.aacc.nche.edu/plus50rp.

The 100 colleges involved with the Plus 50 Encore Completion Program will build on the success of AACC’s Plus 50 Initiative. Since 2008, the initiative has focused its efforts on training programs to get unemployed older adults back on the job.

An independent evaluation of AACC’s Plus 50 Initiative found that 89 percent of students agreed that college work force training helped them acquire new job skills, and 72 percent attributed landing a job to such training.

The Plus 50 Encore Completion program supports AACC’s work to increase the number of students who finish degrees, certificates and other credentials. In April 2010, AACC committed alongside other higher education organizations, to promote the development and implementation of policies, practices and institutional cultures that will produce 50 percent more students with high-quality degrees and certificates by 2020.

For more information about the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC, visit http://plus50.aacc.nche.edu.

Save While Shopping For School Supplies And Clothes

When it comes to saving money on school supplies and clothes, parents may benefit from doing a little homework.

Studying up on ways to save can even put some money in your educational piggy bank.

• Shop at home. Only buy the things you need.

• Walk around your house and open some drawers; you may have all the pencils and rulers you need.

• Make a list and stick to it.

• Shop early. That way, you won’t be tempted to make last-minute impulse buys.

• Shop around. Look at weekly sales circulars. Visit a few stores.

• Buy clothes during tax-free holidays.

• Look for free shipping. If you are shopping online or shipping supplies off to college, shipping costs can add up.

• Consider saving on your everyday purchases through Upromise.com. Upromise now allows you to earn 5 percent or more cash back on eligible online purchases. Use the new Upromise Mastercard® and you can earn 10 percent or more cash back on eligible online purchases through Upromise.

The cash back you earn goes directly into your Upromise account. Saving money for college can pay off, as having a college degree is becoming more and more valuable.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, college graduates with a bachelor’s degree earned an average of $20,000 more than high school graduates in 2011.

Upromise members can use their earnings in one of four ways: transfer the funds into 529 college savings plans, pay down an eligible Sallie Mae-serviced student loan, make a deposit into an FDIC-insured Sallie Mae High-Yield Savings Account offered through Sallie Mae Bank, or request a check.

You can learn more or join for free at www.upromise.com.
One of your friends dropped a bombshell the other day: she’s getting divorced.

You almost can’t believe it. She and her man seemed like the perfect couple, always so sweet together, always so understanding. It’s sad and it’s scary because she’s not your first friend to announce a break-up.

So what’s going on? More importantly, how can you make sure it doesn’t happen to you and your beloved? In the new book *Making Marriage Work: New Rules for an Old Institution* by Lynn Toler, you’ll find some tough words on a tender situation. “Why can’t people stay married anymore?” That’s what everybody asks Lynn Toler. As the star of TV’s *Divorce Court*, she sees a lot of broken marriages, so it’s a good question.

To get an answer, says Toler, we must understand that the “marriage” we idolize and hold as ideal never really existed. We’ve romanticized unions that endured without understanding the real reason for the longevity. Furthermore, marriage itself has changed and “what worked 50 years ago won’t work now.”

The thing to remember, says Toler, is that you can look at the divorce rate and shake your head, but the problem is local. You don’t have to “fix the world.” You just have to fix your marriage.

To do that, you need to know the rules. Decide, first of all, to consciously be married. Don’t have a “Plan B” in your relationship. Find reasons to stay together, and nurture “common passions.”

If you’re not yet married, but want to divorce-proof your relationship, spend time learning about one another. You put months into planning your wedding, so put months into learning who you are and who your spouse-to-be is. Know the “Red Flags” and the reasons not to wed. Learn what your “Odd Things” are, and decide if you can live with your partner’s oddities. Lastly, wait. What’s the hurry?

If you’re already married, practice your communication skills. Be kind, don’t use sarcasm and watch for things that don’t get said. Never say “okay” if you don’t mean it. Become financially literate and don’t “let your money leak out.” Also, remember that marriage counseling is not just a “last-ditch effort” because, when it comes to marriage, a check of it for the heck of it is never a bad idea. Common sense? Yes, no and probably. But when a relationship is frayed at the edges, *Making Marriage Work* is a good reminder.

Using her own marriage (and its troubles) as example, author Lynn Toler subtly lets readers know that having marital problems isn’t anything shameful or abnormal but that it is fixable. In this book, she looks at how a marriage bruises, then she offers solid advice for newlyweds, Golden Anniversary celebrants, and everybody between. Toler then hints that the work is never done but that the rewards can be worth the efforts.

Never preachy or holier-than-thou, I think *Making Marriage Work* is good to read whether you’ve put a ring on it recently or decades ago. If you want to glue your “I do,” get hitched to this book soon.
The U.S. Department Of Labor Is Here To Help

As you are well aware, a great deal of the energy and attention in this country is focused on creating jobs. As the Secretary of Labor, this challenge is foremost on my mind. But creating jobs is only part of the puzzle.

By 2020, 17 of the 30 fastest-growing occupations will require a postsecondary certificate or degree. In fact, employers are actively looking to fill nearly 4 million job openings in America right now. So we have to do more to help you get the specific skills local employers want to see from day one.

On Labor Day 2012 and every day, my No. 1 priority is to help those looking for work get the training they need for good-paying careers. Here are a few tips:

• Not sure where to begin? Get to know your local American Job Center. These nearly 3,000 “one-stop-shops” are a part of a nationwide network where you can work with employment professionals to update your resume, strengthen interview skills and find companies looking to hire. Find your local center by visiting CareerOneStop.org.

• Looking for a fresh start? Check out MySkillsMyFuture.org to explore different careers that build off of your existing skills, connect you to free training programs and even find local employers looking to hire. The site will also tell you how much different jobs pay near you or across the country, as well as the additional skills you'll need to succeed.

• Not sure what career is right for you? Visit MyNextMove.org to find the job that’s the perfect fit. You can fill out a questionnaire listing your interests and abilities, and get suggestions for different employment paths in more than 900 careers. It will also show you occupations that build off of your existing skills, connect you to free training programs and companies looking to hire. Find your local center by visiting CareerOneStop.org.

• Don’t have Internet access at home? We’ve partnered with local libraries all around the country to make sure that you always have a place to log on to our online resources. Nearly 160,000 people do it each month.

Make no mistake, the American workforce is back on track. Every day Americans are succeeding. And we won’t rest until every American who wants a job can find one.

NAACP (Continued from Page 6)

schools for the next generation.”

“These funds will allow for necessary improvement to make sure that an important moment in our American history is preserved and shared with future generations.”

Funds will be used to continue development and installation of exhibits in the house, including restoration of selected rooms in the house. An exhibit plan was developed in 2010 and the first phase of exhibits was installed in 2011. Work will be performed by Ohio Historical Society staff, consultants as needed, and subcontractors. Work to be performed by others will be competitively bid following the Society’s guidelines. The site is covered by an operating agreement between OHS and the Cultural Facilities Commission.

State Rep. Alicia Reece Announces State Funds for Harriet Beecher Stowe House

$100,000 for Improvements and Upgrades to Exhibits

Special to The Truth

State Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) today announced the approval of funding in the amount of $100,000 to make needed repairs and improvements to the historic Harriet Beecher Stowe House, located in Cincinnati.

“The Harriet Beecher Stowe House is a crucial part of Ohio’s rich history. It was home to a truly amazing Ohioan and American citizen who deserves to be remembered and honored,” said Rep. Reece. “These funds will allow for necessary improvement to make sure that an important moment in our American history is preserved and shared with future generations.”

A Place to Call Home

If you’ve been looking for a comfortable, secure and affordable place to live, then look no further.

Pelham Manor Apartments offer many amenities including:
• Individually controlled heat/AC
• Laundry facilities
• All appliances
• Rent based on income
(low income individuals encouraged to apply)

Pelham Manor provides one and two bedroom accessible apartments for persons aged 62 years or older, also available to persons under 62 who require certain accessibility features of units. Please call for information or stop by Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

2700 Pelham Road • 419-537-1515

Equal Housing Opportunity
Equal Employer Opportunity
Interview with 2 Way a/k/a T2

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

So many artists are a dime a dozen these days. As I said last week, I will try to only bring you people I know for a fact are putting in that work required to be better than most… people worth your time and attention.

This brother right here comes from a popular family with a name already synonymous with music in our area, but he’s already expanding. Here’s an introduction to T2 a/k/a 2 Way.

Michael:
Tell our readers, who is T2 as an artist? Your style, your lane, what they need to know.

T2:
T2 as an artist is pretty much everything honestly. I’m a rapper, singer, producer, engineer, songwriter, artist developer, graphic designer and more. I can’t really be defined by one aspect.

Michael:
I’ve seen you make some moves this summer, give us some details about what you have done these last few months to move your career to the next step.

T2:
I definitely took giant steps this summer. I released my third mixtape titled “I’m Getting So Cold,” signed a distribution deal with Island Def Jam, I was featured in the Hip Hop Weekly August issue and performed at the famous Core DJ Retreat.

Michael:
I always ask everyone this, what do you feel about the local entertainment scene? What are we doing right, what are we doing wrong?

T2:
Locally there is too much competition/artist and not enough spectators/listeners. No one wants to unite to push one artist at a time until Toledo becomes the new Atlanta.

Michael:
Is your overall goal to get a major deal? Or to be independent? And why?

T2:
To be honest at first I wanted a major deal and have gotten offered major deals but it wasn’t what I thought it was going to be. They wanted too much of my money and I am not trying to be a slave for the duration of a contract when I could’ve waited and a better opportunity would’ve came along. Right now, independent is where it’s at. I have more control and keep more of my money, just look at what Mac Miller is doing.

Michael:
What else can people expect to see and hear from you this year?

T2:
Man, I have a new cd releasing in September titled, “Six Pack” full of six hit singles, I’m re-releasing my mixtape revamped with five to six new songs in light of me getting 8,000 downloads on datpiff. Also, I’m releasing a new single called “She Like It;” going on a college tour starting in October and starting production on a full length movie. Visit www.T2music.com for more info.

I would like to leave your readers with this: Relationships mean everything in this industry, even more than money because you never know who’s going to blow up next and make sure your team and circle is solid because they are the ones that carry you.

Be sure to check him out, and while you’re online… please visit the new website for my company as well: www.uemusic.com.

Gonna take a break from artist interviews for a while to continue with something I started a couple weeks back…thanks for reading. Peace.

What I Learned Watching “Love & Hip Hop Atlanta”

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

First of all…there’s very little hip-hop or love involved.

Lot of at least the location is accurate.

Stevie J. is one of my heroes. As a music producer, I mean.

I’m shocked there are people who don’t know what he’s done:

Over 50 million albums sold, multiple Grammy awards and someone who has made Billboard chart history a few times. I mean, if you loved 112’s debut album you gotta know that most of it was produced by him.

Also, if you knew of him in the 90s… you also know his nickname was Sleazy J.

A nickname he was proud of. So one thing I learned about a legendary producer is that he sucks as a manager and he is totally relationship incompetent.

Like, the idea of a committed relationship with fairness and transparency is an entirely foreign concept to him. Somehow Joseline was able to recognize that and make an adjustment in a matter of months as to how much she should invest in him in that sense. Mimi on the other hand, 15 years in… it’s hard to see her as a victim.

Something else I learned watching Stevie J., Benzino and Scrappy.

None of them are relationship material in the slightest, but women don’t seem to care.

I don’t blame the men for how they are because it’s apparent.

These dudes can barely hold a rational conversation about their relationships and they only seem to communicate well when it’s either a) stroking an ego (their own, or the chicks) or b) sweet talking to get their way.

It’s like, everything else they had to say was incoherent gibberish that any grown woman should be able to identify as NOT relationship material. It’s like the emotional barometer was off. Benzino is either super gushy or super heated and he thinks a half assed marriage proposal is the right move for a relationship losing stability. Scrappy doesn’t seem to realize that the presence of TV cameras mean his words are being recorded because he’s telling lies to Shay and Erica left and right about his involvement with each of them.

I t’s like he just doesn’t want to be alone so he trying to have one on deck since the other has been treating him cold but he doesn’t even understand where the cold treatment stems from. Plus, Momma Dee in his ear is worsening her son’s chances of ever seriously settling down with anyone with her pimple wisdom.

But overall, these dudes taught me that liars and cheaters get more chances with women, I don’t know why…but they do.

But then again I like how Kirk and Rasheeda eventually made their marriage a focal point so I guess good guys do get what they deserve too. Even though their working relationship is nightmarish in my opinion. Speaking of nightmares, Joseline is completely oblivious as an artist.

I think she is clueless as to what she signed, how contracts work or even the professional resume of her producer/manager.

Instead of investment, she seems to view the photo shoots, studio time and other services more like attention or fuel for her ego.

I heard the rumors about how K. Michelle was in business at the same time that I was put on to her music about two years ago…and the rumors seem true.

Neither she or Karlie Redd seem to grasp the differences between what managers, producers, executive producers and agents do in the business they are in.

But I can say K. Michelle is easily the most talented artist on the show and if she ever gets it together I would check for her product.

The overall lesson I learned watching this madness I swore I wouldn’t watch is this:

It’s easy to laugh and judge others and imagine what we would do different. And it’s fun too! Lol.
Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Human Resources Associate. The selected applicant will support the day-to-day operations of the Human Resources office and staff including recruitment, employment, benefits and HRIS. Candidate will provide administrative support to the HR team; serve as the primary contact for new employees; maintain employee records and documents; assist with routine HR events such as Benefits Open Enrollment; and support key strategic HR initiatives and projects as assigned.

Candidate must have a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resources or related field. 3-5 years HR experience in a high growth environment, preferably in a manufacturing environment is required. Experience with a HRIS and ADP is preferred. Candidate must have experience with Microsoft Office Suite and have the ability to insure integrity and work with confidential information.

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

Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Scheduling Administrative Assistant. The selected applicant will be responsible for filing hourly shift vacancies for Operations, Lab and Firehouse based on union contract language. Candidate will generate weekly schedules; update overtime and fill vacancies on the schedules; track vacations and holidays; maintain documents and records; order supplies; and backfill for other Administrative Assistants as needed. Hours of work for this position are 11:00 a.m. -7:30 p.m.

Candidates must have a high school diploma or GED and the ability to interpret contact language and make decisions in a high stress, fast paced environment. Previous scheduling experience and work with union contracts is preferred.

All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbfenergy.com and selecting the Career tab. Once on the career page, candidates can view our current job opportunities and apply to desired position.
Community Advocate Wanted
The Friendly Center and Martin Luther King
Kitchen for the Poor are seeking well qualified
applicants for a Community Advocates position. Community Advocates will be the “eyes and ears on the street" building relationships with neighbors around the framework of nutrition education and healthy eating. Associates or Bachelor’s degree in Social Work discipline is preferred. Applicants should be energetic, well-spoken and experienced in working in an urban setting interacting with low and moderate income families. Benefits include flexible schedule and $250 per month stipend. Email resumes/credentials to Shantae Brownlee at sbrownlee@friendly-center.org. Please apply no later than August 31, 2012.

“Do you 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!

Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment Clinician
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. is seeking full-time Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment Clinicians to provide community support services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Duties will include assessment of client needs, assisting in the development of the treatment plan, coordination of the treatment plan, crisis management, stabilization, advocacy and outreach, education and mental health interventions addressing the mental illness.

Bachelor’s degree in social work or a Master’s degree in counseling, valid Ohio LSW or PC license and a valid driver’s license required. Experience preferred.

Send resume or apply to:
Human Resources - CPST
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org

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.

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Renal Services of Toledo has an opening for a Nephrologist to work in the Toledo area (Lucas County.) The Nephrologist will diagnose and treat kidney-related disease or illness. Will evaluate patients and order dialysis as necessary. Consult with patients to determine appropriate course of treatment. Will prescribe and administer treatment, therapy, medication, and other specialized medical care. Will take call and round as necessary. Applicant must have an M.D. Degree or the foreign academic equivalent (MBBS). 3 years of Residency training in Internal Medicine, and 2 years of Fellowship in Nephrology. Must have or be eligible for Ohio Physician’s License. Applicants submit resumes to Office Coordinator; Renal Services of Toledo, 2702 Navarre Avenue, Suite 201, Oregon, Ohio 43616 or fax. 419.698.8570.

Houses for Rent

Teacher Wanted
The Padua Center is seeking a teacher to work in the Padua Possibilities Program, an alternative to suspension for children from selected TPS schools. The ideal candidate will possess a Bachelor’s degree with teacher certification for elementary school. This is a part-time position; 24 hours a week.

Send resume, and references by August 27, 2012 to: Search Committee The Padua Center 1416 Nebraska Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43607 419-241-6465 thepaduacenter@gmail.com www.paduacenter.org

Classifieds August 22, 2012
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PUBLIC NOTICE
LCCS is seeking proposals from non-profit and for-profit agencies or entities that have unique information, knowledge and experience working with children and adolescents ages 6-17, who exhibit behaviors that place them at risk of disrupting from their home or substitute care placement. Request for proposal materials will be available from August 15, at 9:00 a.m., through August 28, 2012, 4:00 p.m., at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604. To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3585. The RFP is also available via the LCCS website, www.lucaskids.net. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., in room 913, 705 Adams St.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is Monday, September 17, 2012, 4:00 p.m. No proposals will be accepted after that deadline.

By: Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services

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

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

Request for Proposals Bed Bug Treatment and Inspection Services
RFP #12-R018
The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Bed Bug Treatment and Inspection Svcs. Received in accordance with law until Tuesday, September 4, 2012, 3PM ET. Pre-Proposal Conf.: August 23, 1PM ET, 425 Nebraska Ave. For documents: www.lucasmh.org/ http://www.lucasmh.org>, 419-259-9446 (TRS: DIAL 711) or 435 Nebraska Ave. For documents: www.lucasmh.org/ http://www.lucasmh.org>, 419-259-9446 (TRS: DIAL 711) or 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. Proposers required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Section 3 Compliance Applicable.

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

Teaching Positions Open
CLASSIFIEDS
For Rent
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Houses for Rent
Ohio Association of Beauticians Annual Convention Highlights

Special from The Reporter (Akron) Newspaper

The City of Canton hosted the 74th Annual Ohio Association of Beautician (OAB) Convention recently at the Courtyard Marriott in North Canton. Sharon Johnson, Ph.D., State president, was a gracious host. Dee Mack, Ph.D., and the Ebene Image Makers Chapter #28 coordinated a great convention.

The Saturday night All-Male Fashion Show was a big hit for the OAB members and their guests. Wilma Lipken, a founding member of the Ebene Image Maker chapter, was honored at the President’s banquet for her mentoring beauticians, dedication to the organization and her outstanding community service. This mother of three children has been a beautician for 50 years.

Vivian Pender, age 88, was honored as the oldest living and still working beautician in the state. She has been the owner of Pender’s Beauty Box in Canton for over 60 years. She received the OAB President’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

Roslyn Moore of Youngstown received the President’s Outstanding Member Award. As OAB Secretary, Ms. Moore was honored for going above and beyond her duties.

Elder Carlos Morris, pastor of the Greater Bethel Apostolic Church of Canton, was the guest speaker at the Sunday morning Prayer Breakfast. Musical guest at the convention was Karen Washington—gospel recording artist from Atlanta, Georgia.

Everyone was inspired by the sermon given by Bishop Cheryl Grisson from Raleigh, North Carolina. A memorial service was held remembering deceased OAB members.

In a special election, Maggie Merriweather of Cleveland was elected to serve as parliamentarian.

The Convention ended with several days of workshops and hair designing/cutting competitions.

Chris Smith, Ph.D., convention coordinator, thanked everyone who helped make the convention a success.

The 75th Annual OAB Convention will be held July 13 thru July 16, 2013 in Lima, Ohio. Linda Redman is president of the Lima Chapter. Convention chairman will be Jesse Lowe and Ruth Glover—advisory board member.