TPS Foundation Salute to Scholars
Red Cross Offers Ways to Help Those Affected by the Oklahoma Tornado

The American Red Cross of Northwest Ohio offers their thoughts and concern to everyone in Oklahoma following the horrific tornadoes early this week. We are working around the clock to provide food and shelter to all those whose lives were affected by these storms. Red Cross disaster services volunteers and staff throughout the country are responding to the area, assessing damages, providing food and supplies to first responders, and support to the people affected by the storm. More than 25 emergency response vehicles are on their way to the area from all over the country, and we expect that the number will increase. The Red Cross is also sending in kitchen support trailers to support the upcoming operation to provide meals to those forced out of their homes.

The local American Red Cross of Northwest Ohio is offering the following ways people can help:

INFORMATIONAL SESSION
The Red Cross will be holding information sessions on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 6 p.m. for community members interested in volunteering to assist those affected by a disaster in northwest Ohio and around the country. Participants will learn the processes and procedures involved for disaster services volunteering including local, regional, and national responses. Following the session, interested parties will receive further volunteer information and background checks before registering for operational training.

Findlay Office
125 Fair Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840
419-422-9322

Lima Office
610 South Collett Street, Lima, Ohio 45805
419-227-5121

Toledo Office
3100 West Central Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43606
419-329-2533

SAFE AND WELL
People with loved ones in the areas affected by the tornado are encouraged to search for them at redcross.org/safeandwell. The site is available for people in the areas affected by the storm to let loved ones know that they are safe. It's important during a disaster that victims of the storm let family and friends know they are safe which can bring others great peace of mind.

TORNADO APP
People should download the free Red Cross Tornado App, available in English or Spanish for all Apple and Android devices. The app allows individuals to prepare for a tornado by testing their skills, offers best practice and tips to respond during a tornado, a list of open shelters during a tornado, and much more. The app also features a high-pitched siren and tornado warning alert that signals the user when a tornado warning has been issued regardless if the app is open. People can call **RED CROSS to receive a download link to their mobile phone.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
This has been a major disaster, and the Red Cross will be there for the people in Oklahoma and their local community. People who wish to make a donation to support the Red Cross response can visit redcross.org, dial 1-800-RED CROSS or text RED CROSS to 90099 to make a $10 donation.

Catholic Charities Collects Donations for Oklahoma Tornado Victims

Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo is collecting donations for disaster relief following the tornadoes that struck cities in Oklahoma on Sunday and Monday. Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo will direct 100 percent of all donations to Catholic Charities of Oklahoma City.

The Oklahoma agency is assisting at disaster recovery areas and will also provide long-term counseling and case management for families and individuals of all faiths who have been displaced by the tornadoes, said Sonny Wilkinson, associate director for mission advancement for Catholic Charities of Oklahoma City. The agency will provide assistance for at least a few years to help families rebuild their lives, he added.

In November, Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo collected $116,000 for Catholic Charities agencies providing disaster relief after Hurricane Sandy.

“Local community responded overwhelmingly to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy in November and also to help victims of tornadoes that struck our area in 2010,” said Rodney Schuster, executive director of Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo. “For those who would like to help those affected by the recent storms, your generosity is greatly appreciated.”

Donations for Oklahoma tornado victims may be sent to or dropped off at Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo, 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. Checks should include “Oklahoma disaster relief” in the memo line. Donations may also be made by credit card by calling 419-244-6711, ext. 218.

Catholic Charities serves 60,000 people of all backgrounds in the Diocese of Toledo annually by providing food, shelter, prescription and emergency rent assistance as well as adoption services, jail and prison ministries and guardianship services to the elderly.

Community Calendar

May 23-25
The Gathering Place Spades Tournament: nightly at 7 pm; Trophy awarded Saturday at 9 pm: 419-320-8571 or 419-322-4462

May 26
Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral 17th Pastoral Anniversary: For Bishop Marjorie Holt, h.d.; 6 pm; Speaker Bishop Andre Woods of Detroit

June 1
Change for Kids Ministries FREE Summer Music Lessons for Children: Beginning June 1: For more information, please call 419-704-6195
KidZone Summer Camp: Meeting for parents who need safe childcare during the summer; The Bethlehem Baptist Church New Life Center; 10:00am - 1:00 pm

June 2
New Prospect Baptist Church Installation Service: 6 pm; Rev. Nathan Madison

June 8
St. Stephens COGIC Father & Son Luncheon: Noon to 2 pm; Speaker Elder Pierre Taylor
Rainbow Tea: UAW Hall; 2 to 5 pm; Sponsored by the MSVMC Cultural Diversity and Civil Rights Committees; 419-350-3232
Gun Buy Back: 10 am to 4 pm; People’s Baptist Church; Working guns bought for $50; No questions asked

June 9
New Prospect Baptist Church 48th Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Stanley Clark of United Vision

June 15
3rd Annual Fatherhood Walk: Central Catholic High School: Guest Speaker Bill Harris: 419-377-1488

June 23
New Prospect Baptist Church 48th Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Taylor of Beulah Baptist
Rep. Ashford Announces Funding for ABLE Program
$1.86 M to administer adult learning programs throughout Ohio

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) announced last week that the State Controlling Board has released funds in the amount of $1,862,600 to ensure adequate appropriations to administer the state’s Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) program. The ABLE program assists adults in increasing their academic proficiencies in order to transition to postsecondary education/training aligned with high-demand occupations.

“Many times remedial adult education is placed at the back of the line when it comes to funding,” said Rep. Ashford. “I am pleased to see money go towards this program, as it will positively affect individuals, their children and the community as a whole. Undereducated parents are the main participants of these programs, and it is imperative we give them the tools necessary to be successful, self-sufficient adults.”

In addition to providing direct assistance to adults, the state ABLE program funds 67 local service providers including Local Education Agencies (LEA), Adult Career Centers, Community Colleges, Community-Based Organizations, and State and County Agencies. As a result, much-needed services such as Basic Skills instruction, GED preparation, ESOL, Family and Workplace Education and Distance Education are provided to thousands of adults each year.

“I am pleased that the state is providing these funds to support adult learning programs throughout Ohio. This investment in our adult population will help them achieve their educational goals and improve their quality of life.”

Ohio has always been a water-rich state. Access to our state’s many bodies of water attracted early settlers and supported generations of farmers and fishermen, manufacturers, and boaters. Today, our harbors and waterways contribute billions of dollars to our state’s economy, and Ohio’s harbors alone directly support more than 8,500 jobs. With our beautiful and plentiful lakes, rivers, and streams, it comes as no surprise that our water infrastructure matters. Passing the Water Resources Development Act which funds critical water infrastructure programs, like the Ohio Dams and Harbors program, the National Dam Safety Fund, and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, is a critical step.

We all know that the Great Lakes region is an invaluable resource – providing a source of water for countless households, generating economic activity for the region, and providing jobs through commerce, fishing, and tourism. That’s why – along with my Great Lakes colleagues – I’ve fought to preserve funding for dredging in the Great Lakes. We simply cannot afford to delay harbor maintenance.

If we don’t work to ensure Ohio harbors are kept open for shippers, then our steel mills, grain elevators, and aggregate terminals will suffer. We need to ensure that iron ore from Minnesota makes it to the steel mills along Lake Erie, and that grain grown in western Ohio can be exported to the world through our Great Lakes ports. The Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund provides the funding for the economically important work of dredging Ohio’s harbors so that they can help deliver products to the world.

But ensuring modern water infrastructure is about more than commerce – it’s also about protecting the public from unsafe dams. That’s why the National Dam Safety Program which brings the federal government, state agencies, and local stakeholders together to ensure dam safety is so important. Right now, Ohio’s aging water infrastructure includes more than 900 hazardous or potentially hazardous dams. Of these 900, more than 400 of the dams are designated as “high-hazard,” meaning that they could cause real damage to surrounding properties should they fail. More than 500 are designated as “significant-hazard,” meaning failure could result in economic loss, environmental damage, flooding of highways or railroads, or impact other concerns. Whether classified as a “high-hazard” or “significant-hazard,” neither is acceptable for our state. We must do everything we can to ensure that our dams are sound.

But unfortunately, among thousands of dams in our state, far too many lack a basic, emergency action plan (EAP). In other words, if a dam breaks and communities flood, families, and business owners would be ill-prepared for an emergency. We know that site-specific EAPs are useful in both identifying potential hazards and minimizing the likelihood that they occur. It just makes sense to ensure that all Ohio communities and homeowners located near dams are protected.

That’s why the Water Resources Development Act is so important to Ohio. This legislation includes critical resources for dam inspections and maintenance. First, it would help state and local emergency management agency’s create action plans. Next, it would identify potential hazards before an emergency involving dams and levees occurs. Finally, it would create an inundation map that shows which areas would be affected by dam failure.

Together, we can move forward and create safer communities. Passing the Water Resources Development Act will help ensure that Ohio water resources will continue to promote economic growth, create jobs, and serve our communities.
United Way Investing $11.8 Million in Our Community

This week, United Way of Greater Toledo announced its 2013-14 investment decisions. Thanks to the generosity of our community, more than $11.8 million will be invested in programs, initiatives, and partnerships advancing the common good throughout Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa counties.

Of that amount, $9.3 million was directed toward the goal of graduating students through strategies in education, income, and health, while donors directed more than $2.5 million to specific area nonprofit organizations.

“We’re proud of the work and results our program partners are achieving,” said Tom Waggoner, United Way of Greater Toledo 2013 board chairman. “We have a solid investment plan designed to keep our partnerships with Toledo Public Schools strong, support access to health care and financial stability services, and allow for the expansion of some of the early childhood work.”

The United Way Board of Trustees acted on the recommendations of community volunteers, who over a course of several months, reviewed program results, completed site visits, and assessed the programs’ ability to achieve the results needed to move the work forward.

“Any strong community is a reflection of the passion of its volunteers and donors and their willingness to work to benefit the community,” said Karen Mathison, United Way of Greater Toledo CEO and president. “I salute our volunteers and applaud the integrity of their work and the generosity of our donors.”

“I’m impressed with United Way’s fiscal responsibility,” said Cindy Pisano, Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center CEO. “Fiscal responsibility is essential and pays off for all of us in the future.”

Below are a few highlights of the strategies and programs in education, income, and health helping prepare students for graduation and beyond.

- A highlight of our education investments is Out-of-School STARS, a program of Wood County Educational Service Center which builds on school-based, high quality afterschool, summer enrichment, and extended learning for elementary students. The program began in 2004 with 300 children and will serve more than 600 in 2013.

- A highlight of United Way’s income work this year is the Free Tax Preparation through which more than 3,000 hard working individuals and families accessed free tax preparation and received $4.4 million back to improve their lives.

- In the health area, the preventive dental health service and oral health education programs at the Dental Center of Northwest Ohio provided 31,000 dental appointments for nearly 16,000 individuals (40 percent of which were children) last year.

To learn more about or get involved with United Way’s work visit unitedwaytoledo.org.

“Like” United Way of Greater Toledo on Facebook, or follow the organization on Twitter. United Way 2013-2014 community investment decisions can be found online at unitedwaytoledo.org/investments.

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Ballers’ Night Reunion Brings Athletes Together for Mutual Recognition

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

“IT’S NOT ABOUT US, HOWEVER, IT’S ABOUT RECOGNITION OF ALL THE GREAT ATHLETES WHO HAVE COME OUT OF THE CITY OF TOLEDO. AND NOT JUST THOSE WHO PLAYED BASKETBALL.”

It’s not just a guy thing; it’s not just a black thing; it’s not even just a basketball thing, says Ken Cunningham of the first Ballers’ Night Reunion. It’s an event scheduled for June 1 at the Seagate Convention Center to bring together hoopsters from Toledo’s past and present “to embrace one another, to support one another and to bring everyone together,” says Cunningham.

But while the event is in title at least – for former basketball players, says Cunningham, one of a trio of past players, along with Terry Crosby and Truman Claytor, who are organizing the event, it’s really for everyone – “the community and other athletes, as well.”

“I’m proud to be part of this,” said Crosby. “It’s not about us, however, it’s about recognition of all the great athletes who have come out of the city of Toledo. And not just those who played basketball.”

Cunningham, who conceived the idea of the Ballers’ Night gala, sees the event as an opportunity for those players who were part of Toledo’s golden age of basketball in the 1970’s, to unite athletes from across the decades. Cunningham, who starred at Rogers High School and graduated in 1976, went on to play at Western Michigan and was drafted by the NBA’s Utah Jazz.

Crosby and Claytor, 1975 graduates of DeVilbiss and Scott high schools, respectively, were both first team All Ohio and part of one of the great games in city basketball history. When their teams faced each other on November 30, 1974, Crosby led his team with 38 points. However, Claytor scored 40 points to lead Scott to a one-point victory.

Crosby went on to play at Kentucky, Crosby attended Tennessee, thus continuing their rivalry in the SEC. Claytor was a starting guard on Kentucky’s 1978 NCAA championship team. After Tennessee, Crosby went to Europe where he played for 17 years and stayed for a total of 30, moving back to his hometown just a few years ago.

“We were competitors,” says Cunningham, “but now we are brothers.” He has been impressed to date with the response to the event. “The biggest thing is the support we have gotten from coaches and families.”

The Ballers’ Night, says Cunningham, represents an opportunity for younger players to meet older players, especially those from that golden era of the 1970’s.

The event is not intended to be a one-time affair, says Cunningham. The trio are hoping to make it an annual event, one that will grow accordingly as the years go by.

Ballers’ Night starts at 6 p.m. at the SeGate Convention Centre and will include cash prizes, entertainment (comedian Joe Terry and local comedian Darrell Banks), a buffet and a “chance for folks to get dressed up a little bit,” says Crosby.

For more information, Cunningham can be reached at 419-865-0089; Crosby at 419-266-6235; Claytor at 419-309-2112. Proceeds from the event will benefit Mom’s House and the MLK Kitchen for the Poor.

Lucas County Children Services is looking for happy, healthy and stable families to become foster parents.

Do you have room in your heart and home to help a child in need?

In exchange for providing a caring home to a child, you might find yourself with the next video football champion!

We’ll provide the training and resources you need to become a foster parent, along with ongoing financial and other supports to help your family welcome a new member.

To learn more, call 419-213-3336, visit us online at www.lucaskids.net or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LucasCountyChildrenServices.
Recognizing Mental Health Month, A Renewed Mind Offers Free Screenings

A Renewed Mind, a Toledo-based community mental health agency, will offer free mental health screenings, during the month of May, at six community resource centers. Neighborhood residents can see clinicians, from May 21 to May 29. The centers include: The Friendly Center (north), Providence Center (south), East Toledo Family Center (east) and Frederick Douglass Community Association on Monroe Street Neighborhood Center and Grace Community Center (west).

A Renewed Mind believes those suffering from mental illness and chemical dependency, regardless of financial status, deserve quality prevention and treatment services. The six community centers serve as anchors in their communities and as with A Renewed Mind, are committed to provide community based services to youth, adults and children.

Matt Rizzo, A Renewed Mind’s VP of clinical operations and the resource center executive directors, both recognize how important regular mental health screenings are to each person’s overall health and well-being. According to Rizzo, “by collaborating with the community resources centers and providing children and their families free depression, trauma, ADHD, and/or substance use screenings, we are offering a first step to their pathway to wellness.”

This year, Mental Health America, the organization which each year designates May as Mental Health Month, selected the theme Pathways to Wellness, as its call for all Americans to identify strategies and approaches that will help them achieve wellness and good overall health. A list of these strategies such as getting enough sleep, maintaining ties with family and friends, taking a walk, limiting alcohol consumption and securing a regular mental health checkup will be offered to all who participate, as well as referral information should a screening indicate the need for mental health treatment.

The resource centers are circulating promotional flyers in their neighborhoods, so as to maximize the time the clinicians are in their centers. Sonya Harper Williams, executive director of The Frederick Douglass Community Association on Indiana Avenue, expressed her enthusiasm in this way, “The Frederick Douglass Community Association is excited to partner with A Renewed Mind to offer these important support services. We appreciate their concern for Toledo residents and support of our mission in service to our community.” A Renewed Mind clinicians will be at the Frederick Douglass Community Association on Tuesday, May 21st.

For more information about the free mental health screenings; specific dates, times and locations, neighborhood residents are encouraged to check with their local community center or by contacting A Renewed Mind Intake at 419 720-9247.

Some Facts at a Glance:

Children in poverty are seven times more likely to have poor health than children higher income households.

African Americans are 30 percent more likely to report having serious psychological distress than non-Hispanic whites. In 2007, Hispanics were three times more likely to be uninsured than non-Hispanics. Poor Mexican-American children ages two to nine have the highest proportion of untreated decayed teeth (70.5 percent), followed by poor non-Hispanic black children (67.4 percent).

Garden Revival

By Melinda Myers

Spring floods, summer droughts and temperature extremes take their toll on gardens and the gardeners who tend them. Help your gardens recover from the crazy temperature and moisture extremes that seem to occur each year.

Start by assessing the current condition of your landscape. Remove dead plants as soon as possible. They can harbor insect and disease organisms that can infest your healthy plantings. Consider replacing struggling plants with healthy plants better suited to the space, growing conditions and landscape design. You often achieve better results in less time by starting over rather than trying to nurse a sick plant back to health.

As always, select plants suited to the growing environment and that includes normal rainfall. Every season is different, but selecting plants suited to the average conditions will minimize the care needed and increase your odds for success. Roses, coneflowers, sedums and zinnias are just a few drought tolerant plants. Elderberry, ligularia, Siberian iris and marsh marigold are a few moisture tolerant plants. Be prepared for worse case scenario. Install an irrigation system, such as the overhead watering. You’ll also reduce the risk of disease by keeping water off the plant leaves.

A properly installed and managed irrigation system will help save water. The convenience makes it easy to water thoroughly, encouraging deep roots, and only when needed. Turn the system on early in the day while you tend to other open areas throughout the garden. You’ll help move the compost to the root zone of the plants and aerate the soil with this one activity.

A little advance planning and preparation can reduce your workload and increase your gardening enjoyment.

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Snip-n-drip soaker system, in the garden. It allows you to apply water directly to the soil alongside plants. This means less water wasted and less overhead watering. You’ll also reduce the risk of disease by keeping water off the plant leaves.

A properly installed and managed irrigation system will help save water. The convenience makes it easy to water thoroughly, encouraging deep roots, and only when needed. Turn the system on early in the day while you tend to other open areas throughout the garden. You’ll help move the compost to the root zone of the plants and aerate the soil with this one activity.

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Aboriginal Art Expert Wally Caruana Speaks June 6 at Peristyle As Part of Toledo Museum of Art Masters Series

Special to The Truth

Acclaimed Aboriginal art expert Wally Caruana will discuss “The Emergence of Aboriginal Australian Art” on Thursday, June 6 at 6 p.m. in the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle. This free presentation is offered as part of the Masters Series, sponsored in part by the TMA Ambassadors.

Aboriginal art, or Indigenous Australian art, traditionally has been based on ancient stories and symbols related to ancestral stories about the creation of the world (“the Dreamtime”). Many of these stories are over 50,000 years old. Some contemporary Aboriginal artists, particularly urban artists, have focused more explicitly on identity politics and social issues. The first use of canvas in Aboriginal art was a mere 40 years ago, a medium now used by a number of contemporary Aboriginal artists.

Caruana is considered to be one of the world’s leading experts on Aboriginal Australian art. Currently an Aboriginal Art specialist with the Michael Reid Gallery in Australia, he is also a visiting fellow in the Department of Art History at the Australian National University and is the senior consultant of Aboriginal Art to Sotheby’s Australia.

While senior curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art at the National Gallery of Australia from 1984–2001, he oversaw the development of a significant collection of Indigenous Australian art and curated numerous major exhibitions.

Caruana is the author and editor of several books and catalogs on Aboriginal art, including Aboriginal Art, available in the Museum Store and online at tma.to ($21.95). Other publications include Windows on the Dreaming: Aboriginal Paintings in the Australian National Gallery and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art: Collection Highlights.

His presentation complements two current TMA exhibitions: Crossing Cultures: The Owen and Wagner Collection of Contemporary Aboriginal Art from the Hood Museum of Art, on view through July 14, and Prints by Australian Artists: The Bicentennial Folio, on view through July 21.

Crossing Cultures showcases 120 works from the 1700s-present, while Prints by Australian Artists was commissioned by the National Gallery of Australia to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Australia’s settlement.

Music and refreshments will be available in the Museum Café preceding Caruana’s talk from 4-6 p.m. Tickets for the pre-lecture food and one drink are $15 members/$20 nonmembers and can be purchased at the main Information Desk, or by calling 419-255-7000, ext. 7448. The Museum Store will be open until 6 p.m.

Admission to the Museum is free. Parking is free for members and $5 for nonmembers.

Start’s Torie McDuffie Headed to Notre Dame College

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

Victoria (Torie) McDuffie, a senior at Start High School, will be entering Notre Dame College in the fall on a combined academic/athletic scholarship.

McDuffie, a standout in both basketball and track for Start over the last two years, was named to The Blade’s girls’ basketball All-City League first team this year and was an honorable mention on the All-District team. Last year she was named to the Blade’s first team for track. She was recognized in basketball for both her scoring and rebounding prowess.

When not focusing on academics and athletics, Torie spends time volunteering with the YWCA shelter. Her mother, Lisa McDuffie, is president and CEO of the YWCA Northwest Ohio.

Pathways to Wellness

Free Mental Health and/or Substance Use Screenings

May 23rd
9:00am-11:00am

Friendly Center
305 West 11th
Toledo, OH

May 25th
8:00am-10:00am

Community Center
4924 S. University Rd.
Toledo, OH

May 22nd
11:30am-1:00pm

Neutral Ground Neighborhood Center
1316 W. Arctic Ave.
Toledo, OH

May 22nd
2:00pm-4:00pm

East Toledo Family Resource Center
2209 North 3rd St.
Toledo, OH

May 28th
9:00am-11:00am

Community Center
4924 S. University Rd.
Toledo, OH

May 29
1:00pm-3:00pm

Junior Community Center
819 Delmar Ave.
Toledo, OH

Screen for:
Depression
Trauma
ADHD
Substance Use

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental health directly effects your physical health.

Take a brief Depression, Trauma, ADHD, or Substance Use screening and start feeling better today. Join us!
Teachers, supporters, scholarship recipients and their parents gathered on May 14 at Premier Banquet Complex to recognize Toledo Public School students who were awarded scholarships. According to TPS Foundation President Deborah Barnett, over $110,000 in scholarships were earned this academic year by 77 students and two educators.

Recipients were awarded according to 21 categories which included fields such as health care, art, general, marketing and science.

The program opened with a welcome and was facilitated by Rhonda Sewell. Barnett offered a brief introduction. “We take pride in our students. This is a positive and inspiring story about our students. They have displayed maturity, compassion, and commitment to their futures. As our students graduate, we hope they make a difference in our community and beyond. I know they will make a difference,” said Barnett.

The program continued with a welcome by TPS Superintendent Jerry Pecko, PhD, and keynote address by Daqueze Stephens the 2012 Scott High School valedictorian who is currently enrolled at the University of Toledo. Stephens’s focus is social work, because he wants to improve his community. “I want to talk about how the TPS foundation scholarship will make a difference in others lives. If a person doesn’t have someone to encourage them, I want to be that person. I want to increase access for our people to achieve a higher education and degree completion. The power of education has the power to change so much,” explained Stephens.

The TPS Foundation scholarship and grant recipients were awarded according to 21 various categories and the following students were honored: Bowsher High School: Myriesha Barber, Chantal Crane, Kelsey Gable, Shawn Giffin, David Irwin, Samantha Mason, Mara Momenee, Alexis Peitz, and Rebecca Sheets; Polly Fox Academy: Alyiasha Cullars, Angela Hannibal, De’Ericka Jackson, Alyssa McIntosh, Taylor Slowinski, and De’Washa Wainwright; Rogers High School: Kassondra Byram, and Cameron McKelvin; Sherman Elementary: Julia Rodriguez; Start High School: Judith Brockman, Ashley Crawford, Alex (Continued on Page 9)
Duncan, Brian Hibbard, Inman Hooker, Melissa Millward, Liquisha Parks, David Person Jr., Mia Richardson and Jessica Williams; Ella P Stewart Academy: Terriana Jaynes, and Alyssa Ragland; Scott High School: Mya Barnhill, Carmela Hill, Isaiah Middlebrooks, Bryan Pinkney, Keyshyra Reid, Antonio Simmons, Shumquez Spears, K’Nhoshia Wallace and Akia Williams; Toledo Early College High School: Olivia Dollarhide, Phouthasak Douanglee, Elisa Edmonds, Noor Hassan, Erica Lee, Autumn Mitchell, Samuel Park, Bre’Anna Smith, Anthony Stuffleinio, Allison Swan and Christian White; Toledo Technology Academy: Jordan Ahrendt, Sara Bowles, Talacia Coleman, Jemila Council, Aaron Maglich, Zachary Miller, Marwan Mohamed, Jose Ruiz and Maxwell Schwefert; Waite High School: Morgan Boisselle, Krystel Griffith, Caitlin Hall, Anastasia Martinez, Katelyn Parker, Sarah Patterson and Tatia Ulrich; Woodward High School: Christina Adamczyk, Taizhanna Dean, Sabrina Johnson, Ashley Mayes, and Ricca Turner; Educators: (Continued on Page 10)
TPS Foundation

(Continued from Page 9)

James Gault and Kathleen Daney.

Since 1999, when the foundation was established, nearly one million dollars in scholarships have been awarded. The Toledo Public School Foundation Board members are: Deborah Barnett, president; Shanda Gore, vice president; Manju, treasurer; trustees: Terry Awls, Stephanie Cihon, Jodi Ellis, Merrill Grant, Jerry Pecko, Ed.D, Derrick Roberts; emeritus trustees: Frank Dick and Edna Robertson; and Executive Director Susan Zurawski. For further information about the foundation and available scholarships, visit www.tpsfoundation.org.

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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.thethruthtoledo.com
Students in grades 7-12 who are enrolled in a traditional high school can earn credits — without disturbing summer job schedules — through the Phoenix Academy Outreach Program. Students study on their home computer or at one of our four computer labs. Classes are comprised of modules, which are similar to textbook chapters. After completion of each module, students take an exam at a Phoenix Credit Recovery Outreach Center.

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Take charge of your education at Phoenix Academy. For more information and a list of available courses, visit www.phoenixtoledo.org.

Recover High School Credits This Summer at Your Convenience.

TPS Foundation

(Continued from Page 10)
For awhile there, you thought you were gonna die. Your head hurt. Your body ached, and your stomach was acting like a fresh-caught fish – but that didn’t matter much. Bills still needed paying and business needed attending. There was family to care for, work to do.

Yes, you should’ve stayed horizontal but you came back from the dead – and so did Easy Rawlins. In the new novel Little Green by Walter Mosley, Easy’s recent demise never gave him but a moments’ rest.

His vision was blurred. His thoughts, more so.

Ezekiel “Easy” Rawlins was having strange dreams of death, but that was no surprise: some two months before, after losing the woman he loved, he got drunk and lost control of his car, landing in brush as the vehicle went into the California ocean.

He wasn’t dead – but he should’ve been and that was the only thing that made sense. He hurt all over and his head was muddled, but immediately after Easy came out of his semi-coma, his friend Mouse asked for a favor.

Nineteen-year-old Evander Noon was missing, and his mother wanted him home. Mouse wanted the boy home, too, but he wouldn’t give Easy a reason. He wouldn’t say why he called Evander “Little Green,” either.

Evander Noon wasn’t hard to find; in fact, Easy had to rescue him from a group of drug dealers who beat the boy while asking where the money was. Once free, Evander couldn’t recall much – he’d been on acid-tripping for five days - but when his mind got loose, he remembered plenty about that money: there was lots of it, stuffed in a blood-soaked bag.

But how did a wet-behind-the-ears teenager end up with over $200,000 of bloody cash without knowing where it came from? And how did Easy’s friend, Jackson Blue, end up in a similarly odd (but expensive) bit of trouble? Driving a borrowed red Baracuda, hopped up on Mama Jo’s Gator Blood, feeling like a young bull, Easy Rawlins would find out… or die trying.

That noise you hear? That’s a sigh of relief from legions of formerly-concerned fans, afraid they’d never read a new Easy Rawlins mystery again. Fortunately, author Walter Mosley dashed their needless worries against the California surf.

Set in 1967, Little Green is classic Easy, with underworld violence, sophisticated crime, and men who efficiently take care of business - all with a noir feel, like a Black Sam Spade. This is the kind of book where men wear fedoras and speak quiet philosophy, where women don’t yet realize their own strength, where Civil Rights are still brand-new and black folks are rarely friends with white ones. Yep, I loved it.

Because it’s been six years since the last Easy Rawlins novel, I recommend that fans brush up some on his story; you’ll get up to speed quick enough. If you’re new to the series, grab the last couple novels and you’ll be fine. Either way, no matter how you seize it, Little Green is a book to die for.

New Poll: Moms Prefer More School Choice

A new poll on popular though sometimes controversial schooling issues shows that moms of school-age children are frustrated with K–12 education’s current course. Perhaps as a result, they want the ability to choose where and how their children are educated outside of public schools.

What Moms Want

Vouchers, charter schools and other “school choice” policies each receive majority support from mothers of school-age children in the “Schooling in America Survey,” a project of the pro-reform Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, conducted by Braun Research, Inc. Vouchers were supported by 66 percent of respondents and opposed by 26 percent, while charter schools were favored by 63 percent with 25 percent opposed.

“So many moms, who want only the best for their children, are left powerless in today’s education system,” said Virginia Walden Ford, a mother whose child received a private school scholarship and attended a charter school. “Moms are dissatisfied with the lack of progress in education. That’s why they’re demanding school choice.”

By nearly a two-to-one margin, the poll shows that mothers of school-age children believe K–12 education in the United States is on the “wrong track,” compared with those saying it is going in the “right direction.” And almost eight out of 10 school moms, or 79 percent, give a “fair” or “poor” rating to the federal government’s involvement in education.

“More states are realizing that tying children’s educational opportunities to their parents’ home address isn’t working,” Ford said. “Our kids deserve better than the status quo.”

What States Are Doing

On the state level, lawmakers supportive of education reform are acting to increase the number of school choice options. In 42 states and Washington, D.C., 2.3 million students are attending 6,000 charter schools, according to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. Private school choice is available in 22 states and Washington, D.C., serving 1.1 million students through vouchers and tax incentives. Recently, Alabama enacted its first-ever private school choice programs, while Mississippi increased the availability of charter schools.

Where To Learn More

You can find the full “Schooling in America Survey” online at www.edchoice.org/SchoolingSurvey or call (317) 681-0745.
What Is A Meme?

By Michael Hayes

Minister of Culture

R&B singer Miguel appeared as a performer on this year’s Billboard Music Awards. During his set, he attempted an obviously unscripted maneuver.

While trying to leap from one part of the stage to another, he miscalculated and ended up kicking one audience member and performing a textbook Hulk Hogan Leg Drop on another.

This aired Sunday night. By Monday afternoon, Miguel Memes were all over the internet. Years ago, an epic TV moment might hit YouTube after two or three weeks.

Now, it’s on YouTube in about two or three hours after it occurs and soon after that all the social media feeds and search queries will be full of memes dedicated to mocking whatever happened.

I remember when people used the term “Desktop Publishing.”

When the average Joe first held the power to create his own media it also meant he could provide media to others as long as it appealed to common tastes.

If you can edit a photo using a phone or computer, you can create an internet meme.

Here’s a few traits of popular internet memes:

- They usually combine popular or recognizable phrases and images to achieve a comical, satirical, political, or dramatic tone.
- The images can come from stock photography available online or stills of well-known celebrities, films and TV shows or current pop culture topics.
- The tone is audience specific. Some memes are perfectly suitable for viewing at work and even acceptable for school age children. Other memes are profane, explicit and only suitable for adults with high tolerances for brash humor.

One of the main reasons I dig internet memes is because they serve as yet another reminder that ordinary average people are now in charge of our entertainment.

You used to wait on the radio to tell you what songs you like.

You used to wait on primetime TV to tell you what was funny or dramatic.

Highly-paid professional actors, writers, and artists still entertain us.

But they are far from being our only option.

Now, we decide what’s cool or interesting or funny.

Meme’s replicate themselves quite easily also.

You can have a dozen versions of one meme generated by a dozen different people.

You can also have one certain image or saying carried out multiple times and used differently by every person who attempts it.

Completely random images (all the Sloth memes for example) get re-created over and over again until they become so universal it’s like having an inside joke with everyone you socially network with.

One idea can be re-imagined a multitude of times and the good ones become something like urban legend online.

Memes are just as retro-active as they are fast-acting.

Still images from the Cosby Show have been popping up in memes for over a year now as people find new ways to re-purpose Cliff Huxtable’s facial expressions for their own hilarious or thoughtful agendas. That’s a 30 year-old throwback that still resonates with people when they see it. Memes are also fast-acting (like with the Miguel incident) and can turn a famous incident into something infamous overnight.

Check out a few of these memes.

Kobe/Mike Brown Meme:

This was right on point with how many people saw their dynamic during this time.

Simple and funny.

Miguel/Kevin Hart Meme:

“She wasn’t ready” has become part of our lexicon thanks to Kevin Hart’s “Laugh At My Pain” special and that phrase fit so perfectly with Miguel’s Leg Drop incident.

Miguel/Martin Meme:

I don’t even remember this episode of Martin, but it’s used in a lot of memes!

Chicks Be Like Meme:

No celebrities, just an image conveying a message that many relate to.

Most “...be like” memes are much more risqué than this.

Obama Meme:

There are tons of Obama memes (some good, most bad) and this one was all over the internet in the aftermath of the successful mission against Osama Bin Laden and the successful conclusion to debunking birthers. It was on point and relevant.

WTF Are You Doing Meme:

Once again, a random pic... no one famous and no pop culture messaging. Just an image from who knows where with a small chuckle.

Bill Cosby/Kanye Meme:

When this song was everywhere last year and this meme came floating through my newsfeed I lost it! I was doubled over laughing at this!

www.TheTruthToledo.com
PART TIME TELLER NEEDED

Looking for a dependable person who also has a flexible schedule and cash handling experience to work 20-25 hours per week as a Part Time Teller. Must be available to work up to 2 Saturdays per month.

All interested applicants please email your contact information and resume’ to ssyourturn@aol.com or mail to: Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

ATTY. LAFE TOLLIVER
For more information contact: 419-215-9020

Debt Relief Program

Send resume with salary requirements or apply to:

Human Resources - DA
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605

Fax: 419-936-7574

Email: hr@unisonbgh.org

ENGINEER

The City of Toledo is currently seeking experienced Engineers for employment in the Department of Public Utilities, Division of Engineering Services. We are seeking to fill multiple vacancies in the following areas: Roadway Engineering (Planning & Design), Construction Management, Water Utility Engineering and Storm Water Utility Engineering. This work will involve performance of work of considerable difficulty involving the design, project management and inspection of facilities such as streets, water lines, storm and sanitary sewers and storm drains. Requirements include graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor’s Degree in Engineering as well as possession of a valid State of Ohio driver’s license. Most positions require registration in the State of Ohio as a Professional Engineer. Pay range: $53,800 to $68,900 depending upon experience and license requirements.

An application may be obtained at the Department of Human Resources, One Government Center, Suite 1920, Toledo, OH 43604 or on the City’s webpage at: http://www.ci.toledo.oh.us/Departments/HumanResources/EmploymentOpportunities/

The City of Toledo is an equal opportunity employer.
Chief Executive Officer, Economic Opportunity Planning Association of Greater Toledo

The Economic Opportunity Planning Association of Greater Toledo, Inc. (EOPA) is the designated Community Action Agency for Lucas County. Founded in 1964, EOPA has been addressing the broad objective of self-sufficiency for low to moderate income people, creating programs that empower, mentor, and providing supportive services. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board of Directors and is at the helm of EOPA, Inc., ensuring the organization is in compliance with all laws and regulations, meets contract performance expectations, prudently manages finances and risk, and provides transparent leadership to reassure stakeholders that the mission will be fully accomplished. EOPA is searching for a transformational and collaborative leader that will bring renewed energy, innovation and rebranding to the organization. The CEO must be an experienced change agent capable of developing, implementing and communicating a clear vision. The CEO leads development of the association and seeks self-sustaining, diversified and reliable financial resources to further the mission of EOPA. The CEO will be responsible for effectively managing media relations and marketing a reinvigorated EOPA. Importantly, the CEO must be passionate and culturally sensitive towards the needs of the population served by EOPA programs and serve as a positive role model within the community.

Programmer/Analyst

The City of Toledo ICT Department seeks a Programmer/Analyst to analyze problems outlined by systems analysts and verify intent of proposed programs, forms of input expected and output desired. Requirements include graduation from an accredited college or university with an Associate’s Degree in Computer Programming Technology or closely related area and two (2) years of computer programming experience OR two (2) years of help desk support experience. Pay range: $42,640 to $50,161 annually.

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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) 729-8700 for details.

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Two Bedroom
One level just renovated.
Call (419) 708-2340.

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You’ll earn free jewelry bonuses and trips, not to mention 30% commission on your sales. Become a Silpada Representative today!

Call 419-290-1832.

SENIOR ENGINEERING AIDE

The City of Toledo is currently seeking a Senior Engineering Aide with experience in construction survey and operation of survey instruments for employment in the Department of Public Utilities Engineering Services. Requirements include graduation from high school or General Educational Development (G.E.D.) tests equivalency and three (3) years of experience on a survey crew as an instrument operator.

Pay range: $30,500 to $40,664. Excellent benefits plan.

An application may be obtained at the Department of Human Resources, One Government Center, Suite 1920, Toledo, OH 43604 or on the City’s webpage at: http://www.ci.toledo.oh.us/Departments/HumanResources/Opportunities/

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Master’s Degree in Management, Non Profit Administration, Social Work, Public Administration; Law Degree; or related field required. Four to ten years related executive management experience administering multi-faceted social services programs required. Knowledge of Community Action Partnership (CAP) preferred.

Qualified candidates should submit resume and letter of interest to: Gans, Gans & Associates, 7445 Quail Meadow Road, Plant City, FL 33565, E-mail: ray@qangsans.com

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Full-time position available for experienced individual to maintain data in an electronic health record. This includes creating customizations to the electronic record, creating underlying data base objects to support those customizations and creating custom reports to maintain this data. Position will also provide end user support.

Send resume with salary requirements or apply to:
Human Resources - DA
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax: 419-936-7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org

Compliance Specialist

Successful non-profit with comprehensive and innovative neighborhood revitalization strategies seeking individual responsible for ensuring residential properties remain current in all aspects of occupancy and compliance. Ideal candidate will possess experience and knowledge of federal regulations. Excellent communication and computer skills required.

Send resume to 3106 Lagrange Street, Toledo, OH 43608, EOE

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Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club Hosts Mother-Daughter Luncheon

Special to The Truth

Early in May, the Toledo Club, National Association of Negro Business & Professional women’s Clubs, Inc. hosted its 49th annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon at the Inverness Country Club.

Twenty-four debutantes and mothers enjoyed a luncheon sponsored by ProMedica Health System. The purpose of the luncheon was to allow each debutante to show her appreciation to her mother and present her with a red rose. Fourteen club members were also in attendance.

One of the repeated themes the debutantes expressed was that they may not have always been grateful and, at times, hard to supervise. Plenty of tissue was on hand for the debutantes as they spoke.

The Cotillion will be held on May 25, 2012 at the Great Hall of the Stranahan Theater. This week, as a preliminary event, the debutantes attended Talent Night. The Talent Night will earn the debutantes their final points before the Ball.

The debs and mothers were welcomed by Denise Black Poon, club president; by Wilma Smith, Cotillion chairman, by Barbara Tucker, North Central District governor and by Debra and Sarabe Russell, club chaplain, gave the invocation.

Debra and Sarabe Russell

Mothers and Debutantes

Lettie and Brittany Bedford

Debutantes and Mothers

Lauretta and Jayla Russell

Linnie and Brittany Bradfield

Melissa Bria Highsmith with Imani & Kim Barnett

Imani & Kim Barnett