



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

September 30, 2015

The Soulcial Scene

OUR COMMUNITY...THE *Soul* OF THE CITY



Judges Duhart, McConnell and English at Boule End of Summer Event

Photo Courtesy Johnny Early

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The Soulcial Scene

Fros, Fashions & Finds

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

Natural hair is deeply rooted in African American culture, but its branches are many and far reaching. From products to events to apparel to art, it has become an industry that is growing rapidly each day around the world.

For some, natural hair is a style and for others, it is a lifestyle. Likewise, for some, going natural is a journey and, for others, they are owning it as a business. No matter the branch we find ourselves perched upon, we are connected at the root and, at the root, is the culture behind natural hair and the possibilities this new industry is presenting.

There are several classes, social gatherings and other events that are taking place year-round right here in Toledo to engage the natural hair community.

The Kitchen Salon, whose motto has been “ A gathering place for natural hair enthusiasts” established itself in 2007 to be a natural hair care resource in northwest Ohio. The practice of women gathering in their kitchens or parlors (also called salons in European parlance) has been taking place for generations. Hair care practices have also been carried out in kitchens around the world while “the kitchen” is also the household name for the kinkiest hair located at the nape of the neck.

How can you tap into the local natural hair community? You can visit Thekitchensalon.com, which is a website dedicated to providing comprehensive information on natural hair and locked hair care.

The website covers topics from how to deal with a sore scalp to find-

ing remedies for hair loss and even how to maintain locs at home. On the site, you can also shop for handmade natural hair products, created with natural and organic ingredients from local vendors.

If you aren't someone who goes online often, there are classes being offered at The Kitchen Salon's studio in South Toledo. Classes held most recently include head wrapping, a twistout workshop, and hair locking 101.

If you are a natural who is comfortable with your hair, there is The Toledo Afro Club, which is a group for naturals who attend classes and events beyond learning about natural hair care. This summer, there was an introduction to yoga class, an eyebrow clinic, and there is a monthly Curlfriends Crochet Circle, where club members are being taught how to read crochet patterns and create their own accessories.

Supporting causes is also a part of the TAC, where donations were collected and presented to The Bethany House, Family House Shelter,

... continued on page 6



Megan Davis

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The Soulcial Scene

There Are Opportunities All Around – From A to Z

By Zahra Aprili

Soulcial Scene Contributor

Most families know that afterschool activities and programs are available at their neighborhood community centers like the Boys and Girls Club or YMCA. There are also a number of independent centers serving the inner city of Toledo, places like the Frederick Douglas Community Association, Friendly Center, Grace Community Center and East Toledo Family Center.

With school back into the full swing, let's make sure that we are keeping our children and teens active outside of the classroom. This week I share with you a list of promising activities that parents may or may not be familiar with. Many of these activities are free or have reasonable fees with payment plans available.

After School Help and Student Resources

Toledo Lucas County Public Library has a number of programs and services available year round for people of all ages. Now that school is back in session there are a few important resources that everyone should keep in mind for school age children.

HOMEWORK HELPER is a free service available to students in grades 1 through 6 at various library branch locations. Check with the library for the full schedule of branch days & times.

Kent Branch Library
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Tuesdays & Thursdays
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Mott Branch Library
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

For teenagers, the library is not just for research. Teens can find volunteer opportunities, as well as, resources on careers, employment, college testing, and financial aid. You can find out more information by contacting the library at (419) 259-5200 or visiting www.toledolibrary.org

Visual & Performing Arts

Dance is a great activity for people of all ages to get involved in. From Ballet to Hip Hop, Acro and Gymnastics to Jazz and Tap, any child interested in moving and grooving will be able to find a class that fits their taste.

Touch A Dream Dance Studio is hosting "ENCOURAGE A FRIEND TO DANCE WEEK" September 30 - October 7. During this time period anyone can try one (1) dance class for free. Feeling shy? Bring a friend, their class is free too. Contact Studio Owner Tanisha Shelmon for class information and time (419) 344-6190 or (419) 344-6028.

Children's Theatre Workshop is a Nonprofit organization that offers theatre programs for students age five-18. Located in the Collingwood Arts Center, participants take acting lessons and are given the opportunity to audition for live stage performances. CTW holds fall, spring and summer sessions contact them at 419-244-5061 or check out childrenstheaterworkshop.com.

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MySTery Music offers afterschool performing arts programs for students in third through 12th grades. Clinicians work with students to help them unlock the art within them by introducing them to five Musical MySTeries: Drumlines, Step Teams, Pitched Instrument, Vocal Performance, and Theatre Etiquette training. For more information contact artsprograms@mySTery-music.com



Zahra A Collins

The Toledo Museum of Art is open Tuesdays-Sundays and is always free to the public. It is a great place to take your student on Thursday or Friday after school. The Museum also has activities in their family center of children ages one-10 on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. If you are interested in formal classes the Museum offers a variety of youth courses for a fee. Scholarships are available for students. The deadline for registration and scholarship application for Fall Session 2 is October 4, 2015. Call 419-254-5080 or register in person in the Education Office of the Museum.

Youth Groups & Service Organizations

The Maumee Bay Youth Club is a youth group sponsored by the Maumee Bay Chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc. The Club is for youth ages 12-18 and meets throughout the year. and participates in activities that focus on Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Technology, and Service. The group also hosts the Annual Black College Tour that takes place each year. For more information about joining this group or to participate in this year's college tour contact Trevor Black at 419.478.7844 or tblack7@bex.net.

Youth Groups & Service Organizations

The Beta Gamma Chapter of Xinos and Kudos are sibling youth groups sponsored by the Beta Gamma Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Inc. The Xinos (girls group) and Kudos (boys group) is for high school students, their purpose is to lift the educational, ethical, moral, and social standards of youth. Members participate in educational enrichment, service projects and social activities. The culmination of their year is participation in a regional conference with other chapters from throughout the Midwest. For more information on how your high school student can get involved contact Linda Collins at 419.902.8541 or Collins.Linda226@gmail.com

Zahra Aprili is a professional consigliere. She works with individuals and businesses that have ideas for growth and change, helping them to get organized and connecting them with service providers who can help them on their journey.

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The Soulcial Scene

Community Clean Up Day

By Carla Yvette

Youth ages two-to-17 participated in Community Clean Up Day, September 12 on Marmion Avenue. Dedra Brown of David Davis Youth Center and Rodney Love came up with the idea as a way of teaching youth the importance of keeping their neighborhoods clean.

Brown said, "I really didn't know how it was going to turn out but to have young people and city officials come out and support was awesome." Toledo City Councilman Tyrone Riley made sure the city filled in pot holes in the area beforehand so the children wouldn't get hurt.

Money from sponsors and community donations helped purchase supplies and a portion was also designated to pay the youth for their hard work but, according to Brown, some of the youth gave it back. "Some of the boys and girls came out to earn community service hours and others just enjoyed meeting and getting know one another"

Brown says she hopes the project gains momentum and moves from community to community. "One of the youth involved asked if we could go to his neighborhood and I told him yes!" She adds, "but we as a community need to make it happen"

The sponsors were: North End Hand Wash and Detail Shop, People's Missionary Baptist Church, NAACP, Keep Toledo Lucas County Beautiful and community donors.

If you would like help cleaning up your neighborhood you may contact Dedra Brown at 419-514-9826. If you would like to make a donation to help fund future Community Clean Up Days you may do so at the Toledo Urban Credit Union David Davis Youth Center.



Community Clean Up Day workers



Dedra Brown and Jayla Draper



Sponsors Micheal Alexander, NAACP and Sgt. Anita Madison, People's Missionary Church

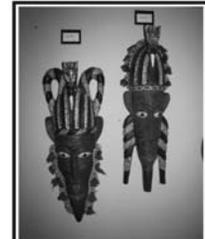
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The Truth Gallery 1811 Adams Street 419-242-7650

The Soulcial Scene

Etiquette in the 21st Century: Because Manners Matter

By Robin Reeves
Soulcial Scene Contributor

Is etiquette a thing of the past?

I've been asked this question over and over again and my answer is and will always be NO, etiquette is not a thing of the past.

Even though times have changed from those days when marriage was only between a man and a woman, when there was no conference call for meetings, when families ate dinner together, when open-toe shoes were not allowed in the office, when men removed their hats inside the church and restaurant, when having a conversation did not include social media and acronyms like SMH, IDK, LMBO when leggings were not worn as pants ...

Well, you get my point. Things have changed, even the word "etiquette" is not as popular as it once was. However, the concept of proper etiquette is still very much required and desperately needed today in the social and professional scene.

So, what is etiquette? Etiquette is that group of social behaviors or proprieties of conduct established in any class or community or for any occasion. It is the ability to make others feel comfortable with you in whatever environment you are in. It is your ability to demonstrate decorum.

It is a set of mostly unwritten rules such as the one many of our parents in my community taught us when we were children: "be home before the street lights come on." As children we knew the consequences of not following that unwritten rule.

Who has etiquette? I'm glad you asked. Everyone has a form of etiquette but not every form of etiquette is appropriate everywhere.

Let's look at three personal vs. professional etiquette tips. The unwritten rules of etiquette we establish in our homes or community, like the one I mentioned above, may be different or not even exist in other homes, communities or with people in your workplace.

So be aware, the rules may be different wherever you go. In your workplace hard skills such as a degree, certifications, experience, resume etc...may have gotten you the job and is a common denominator among the employees but your etiquette skills like communication, relationship development, respect for self and others, dependability, trustworthiness, and more, are what will help you keep the job.

Social skills in the workplace are needed but be careful not to cross the line. For example, first, body language is a form of communication. In your personal life, body language may not be something that we are concerned about, besides, no one pays you to sit up straight in your own home.

If you slouch in your chair at home it may not affect others around you but if you slouch in a professional meeting at work it could send the message that you're not interested, not attentive or lack confidence.

Second, in your personal life you may isolate yourself and think no one is affected by your behavior. In your professional life, if

you isolate yourself you may be perceived as not being a team player, lacking relationship development skills, appearing not trustworthy or worse.

Third and finally, in your personal life we have the option to dress in a way that expresses our personality and creative side and many times the way others perceive us does not matter this is who we are. In our professional life, the dress code can usually be found in the employee handbook.

Not complying with this written rule may indicate that you are non-cooperative, have a hidden agenda, or just don't care. This may or may not cause you your job but it can hinder your ability to move up in the company or take advantage of other opportunities that can increase the value you add to your company.

I would not be surprised if you were already aware of the three etiquette tips I just shared with you. As I mentioned earlier proper etiquette is not new however research has shown that employers are spending nearly 20 percent of their operating cost to replace employees due to lack of workplace etiquette skills. Employers are looking for the entire package in their employees: hard skills and soft skills (etiquette).

On September 1, 2015 Lucas County declared September National Workforce Development Month. What are you doing to increase your workforce development etiquette skills? Let us know.

I will end this article with a quote from President Obama "For all the cruelty and hardship of our world we are not mere prisoners of fate. Our actions matter and can bend history in the direction of justice."

Reeves Etiquette & Image Consulting LLC. teaches etiquette and image skills that empower children and adults to build relationships and success with confidence, personal integrity and respect (C.P.R.). We show how the soft skills of etiquette and image can strengthen families, increase earnings and build communities.

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The Soulcial Scene

Keith's KOOL2Dos

By Kool Keith

Soulcial Scene Contributor

"KOOL2DOs" are creative ways to enjoy ourselves within a full tank of gas from the 419. Most are free, inexpensive, or well worth our \$\$ KOOL2DOs include, but are not limited to, concerts, festivals, social/community events, etc. Also included as KOOL2DOs are ideas that encourage us to think and act outside of our norms.

My "KOOL2DO" for this issue is: "The L.O.L. Lounge" – a FREE Comedy Show.

Comedian Kool Keith hosts, "The L.O.L. Lounge," a FREE Comedy Show, every first Thursday at Our Brother's Place located in downtown Toledo.

Doors open at 8:00 p.m. with DJ Big Trav's video show and the comedy show begins at 9:00 p.m. The show is hosted by Kool Keith and features seasoned amateur and professional comedians, some with TV and film credits, from all over the country.

It's a great show that's fun, entertaining, and a KOOL "date night" for many. This show is provided to the people FREE on purpose. It's Kool Keith's way of giving back to his city, providing them with much needed stress-relief and an add social outlet.

The show began in August of 2011 and has consistently been a staple in the city ever since. Laughter is good for the soul! The L.O.L. Lounge is good for the Soulcial Scene!

Kool Keith is a proud product of Toledo! He's a full-time user of talents who wears many hats. He's a youth advocate, published writer, stand-up comedian, father and one who actively cares about his people & his community.



Kool Keith

Fros, Fashion & Finds... continued from page 2

other individuals in need and the Self Reliance Autism Center.

Because everyone is at a different stage in her natural hair journey, there is also an annual Expo that is held to bring everyone together. This year, the Fifth Annual Ohio Natural Hair, Health & Beauty Expo will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Believe Center.

This one-day event offers Toledo the largest African-American vendor marketplace, featuring local artisans, authors, jewelry and apparel designers, hairstylists, and other small business owners. Guests who attend will have access to six classes this year that include Meal Planning for Fitness with Kaisha Alexander who lost 130 pounds; Living on Purpose with Marjory Curry, MPA TedX speaker and author and the 1 Hour Wash Day with Gwen Jimmere, the first African-American woman in the world to obtain a patent for a natural hair care product.

Additional classes on beauty and hair care will fill the day leading into the Natural Hair Honors, featuring recording artist Tracy "The

Rarebreed" Haynes. The Natural Hair Honors is a part of the expo this year, to honor the volunteers and presenters who have made it a success in the past four years.

Even more, the Expo will feature the MFINITY Fashion Show which will feature singer Carmen Miller and the wearable art of the beautiful trio of artists, designers singers and photographers Merce, Marisa and Monika Culp. Their original designs are bold, unique and are coupled with their handcrafted accessories. The show will also feature local models with DJ Miss T, also a model and poet, on the 1s and 2s.

This demonstrates that natural hair is so much more than a cute style, a bold statement or a conversation piece. Natural hair has created a new industry of entrepreneurs and a large community of conscious consumers who are celebrating the beauty, benefits and business of natural hair.

Megan Davis is the creator of The Kitchen Salon, a natural hair care resource dedicated to providing education and empowerment to the local/regional natural hair community. She combines her 20 years of cosmetology and healthcare experience with ancestral knowledge and techniques to teach everyday Naturalistas the fundamentals of healthy hair care and self acceptance. To learn more, please visit TheKitchenSalon.com or TheNaturalExpo.com, send emails toinfo@thekitchensalon.com or call 419-984-0395

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The Soulcial Scene

Alpha Phi Boule Holds Annual Farewell to Summer House Party

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Members of the Alpha Phi Boule gathered at John Moore's home on Saturday in September to celebrate the end of summer. The annual event is a tradition, begun at the home of member Paul Hubbard, in an effort, says Moore, "to bring members from around the area together."

Family, friends, and members from the Boule regional joined local members in an "opportunity to get ready for the fall," said host Moore.

The celebration at Moore's house featured a meal prepared by We Are Ribs, prize drawings for a fortunate few and an afternoon of fellowship for dozens of invitees.



Clark of Court Vallie Bowman-English, Naomi Thompson, Dr. Traci Watkins, Melba Jackson



Judge Clinton Canady of Lansing Boule, Dr. William Sharp of Detroit Boule, Alfred Baker and Ronald Thompson



Johnnie Early, Ph.D., and Thomas Winston



Lancelot Thompson, Ph.D



Paul Hubbad and Pariss Coleman



Robin Barclay

Photos courtesy Johnnie Early



Dr. Mallory Williams and John Moore



Dr. Houston Johnson, State Sen. Edna Brown, Thomas Hutton



Doni Miller



Judges - Myron Duhart, C. Allen McConnell, Ian English



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The Soulcial Scene

Macomber/Whitney Meet and Greet

By Carla Yvette

The Macomber/Whitney class of 1985 held their 30th class reunion at Our Brothers Place September 4. Inspired by the highly popular, much anticipated Scott Bulldog weekend, Macman Travis Grant, a 1990 graduate of Macomber/Whitney, decided to use the 30th class reunion as an opportunity to start the discussion for their first "Macmen" weekend.

Classes 1987-1991 were invited to a Macomber/Whitney meet and greet to get together, catch up and start planning for the event. According to Grant, the 2016 Macmen weekend will take place Labor Day weekend in collaboration with Our Brothers Place Block Party.



Macomber Whitney Alumni



Tanya McCadney with Travis Grant



Marquetta Hunter, Samantha Golladay and Marketa Roberts



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The Soulcial Scene

The Blackout Party: The Event You've Been Waiting For

Kerry Emery and Ryan Glaze presented The Blackout Party, September 19 at Club Evolution. Over 200 Guests decked in an array of black styles ate, drank and danced as DJ Big Lou Da Mayor pumped out music from the 80's and 90's.

"The Blackout Party was all about bringing the 40 plus crowd out to have a great time," said Emery. "There's nothing like reminiscing about the 80's and 90's with a group of friends who share some of the same memories. We all love the music as it was music for the soul. It had meaning, it was fun, it's OLD SCHOOL!"

A 50/50 raffle and give-aways took place throughout the night.



William and Felicia Dunston



Rodney Johnson and Dawn Mitchell



Willie and Kerry Emery



Event hosts, Kerry Emery and Ryan Glaze



Gail Hunt and Kelly Westmoreland with Shy Liggins



Sherman Hill and Carla Smith



Emily Fanagan, Canell McCoy with Angela McCoy and Richelle Watkins



Tamala and Kerry



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Toledo Museum of Art

**FREE Masters Series Lecture
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Johnnetta Cole

**Thursday, October 8
6 P.M. | Peristyle**

Scholar, author, and activist Dr. Johnnetta Cole has broken ground as the first African-American woman to lead Spelman College and the first woman elected to the board of Coca-Cola. During her lecture, she will share best practices for museums to move toward "a new day" where boards, staff, exhibitions, programs, and audiences reflect the diversity in our nation.

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The Soulcial Scene

Eddie M. Cole – and Company – Celebrate His 95th

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Eddie M. Cole arrived in Toledo in 1946 after he had completed his service in World War II and has been a member of Braden United Methodist ever since. The congregation of that church joined him after service this past Sunday to celebrate his 95th birthday – a milestone he has reached with grace, good humor and an unflinching desire to be of service to his community – according to those who spoke to the congregation during the celebration.

“He and the love of his life, Edrene Benson Cole, love and loved our community and Braden Church,” said Toledo City Councilwoman Theresa M. Gabriel who has known Cole since the day he arrived in Toledo.

Cole finished his undergraduate education here in Toledo and earned his law degree from the University of Toledo in 1951. He practiced law in town for 60 years, retiring in 2011 and, as a lawyer, was selected Outstanding Toledo Lawyer by the UT Law Alumni Association; was selected to the Hall of Fame of the National Bar Association and has had a scholarship established in his honor to the UT College of Law that is awarded annually.

“Eddie is a template that any young attorney could follow,” said

fellow attorney Lafe Tolliver who recalled his own days as a young attorney seeking the advice and counsel that Cole would so generously dispense. That advice, noted attorney and City Councilman Tyrone Riley, was always “well thought out.”

Another attorney, James Carlisle, praised Cole for his devotion to the community and to the brotherhood of local lawyers. Cole, said Carlisle, “is a quintessential example of a man blessed with time.”

Also addressing the Braden congregation was Cole’s son, Edwin L. Cole, Larome Myrick of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Ricky Willis of Triumph Lodge #23.

The short speeches of praise were interspersed with selections by the Harper Male Chorus, particularly appropriate because Cole has been so active in the Braden United Methodist Men over the years.

Cole wrapped up the Sunday tribute and offered thanks to all for the effusive praise as he recalled some of the difficulties experienced during his youth.

“We are celebrating not only my birthday,” said Cole. “But also the progress we’ve made throughout America.”



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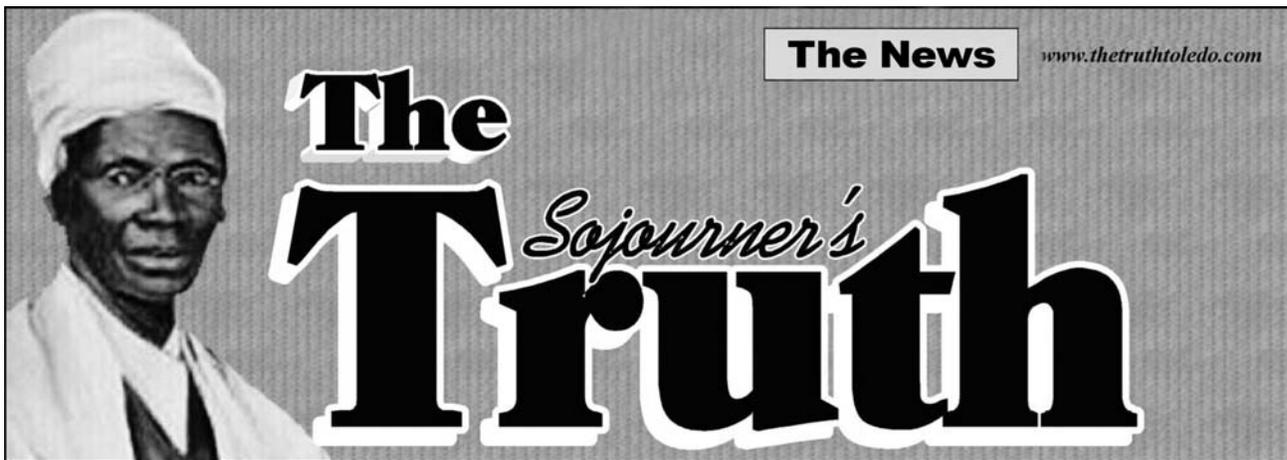


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Eddie Cole and Councilwoman Theresa M. Gabriel



Toledo Fair Housing Center and City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods Host Fair Housing Implementation Council Kickoff

Special to The The Truth

Toledo Fair Housing Center and the City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods partnered to host the Fair Housing Implementation Council (the Council) Kickoff. The event was held on Friday, September 25, beginning with a news conference at Toledo Fair Housing Center at 10 a.m. and followed by the Council kickoff at United Way of Greater Toledo, located at 424 Jackson St., Toledo, OH 43604, Rooms A&B.

Approximately 50 stakeholders from across the community attended, including representatives from local government, nonprofit, and the housing industry, as well as community members and advocates. By forming a collaboration across key sectors, the Council aims to effectively address barriers to fair housing in our community and increase participation in the Fair Housing Action Plan.

Every five years, Toledo Fair Housing Center and the City of Toledo develop a Fair Housing Action Plan (Action Plan). In an effort to address barriers to fair housing, the Action Plan identifies impediment areas that may inhibit one's access to housing of their choice.

Examples of such barriers include transportation, reentry after incarceration, homeless services, foreclosure, and public policies. Each impediment area contains corresponding goals and actions steps designed to overcome the impediment.

"This is a comprehensive strategy to expand housing opportunities in the City of Toledo," said Michael Marsh, president and CEO of Toledo Fair Housing Center. "Our goal is to broaden this to a regional effort, and we invite other communities in our area to partner with us to develop ways to ensure equal access to housing and, therefore, access to opportunity."

Bonita Bonds from the City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods commended Toledo Fair Housing Center for setting the example for other communities, stating, "Our Fair Housing Center is way ahead of the game compared to other jurisdictions."

One of the goals of the Council is to advocate for legislative changes necessary to provide protection for source-of-income, currently not recognized as a protected class. While attempting to rent a house with his wife, Kevin Tucker encountered a landlord who had previously refused to rent to a tenant receiving housing assistance and who denied the Tuckers the opportunity to rent once she discovered he had previously lived in public housing.

Having his security deposit returned to him, Tucker realized the landlord was considering factors aside from his ability to pay rent. "We thought, this isn't right. We're trying to make a better life for ourselves," Tucker added.

Although an investigation was conducted, Toledo Fair Housing Center was unable to file a complaint because source-of-income is not a protected class.

"It's important to recognize that many people have nontraditional means of income: social security, disability or military benefits, child support, or housing choice vouchers (public housing assistance). As long as a person can prove their ability to pay, it shouldn't matter where the money comes from, and they shouldn't be denied the right to housing," explained Marsh.

A regulation issued by HUD in July reminds communities of their responsibility to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing, or proactively take steps to promote diversity and integration. Beyond simply prohibiting discrimination, jurisdictions receiving federal funding are required to actively take steps to develop inclusive policies and overcome historic patterns of segregation.

"This partnership represents the City of Toledo's commitment to expanding housing opportunities, and we are grateful for their support," said Marsh.

"But in order to achieve broad impact, we need other communities to come to the table. We have already met with the Lucas County Commissioners and the City of Oregon and look forward to joining them and other local areas to ensure members of our community have the chance to be successful."

The Council is a means to help implement the Action Plan by plugging community partners into appropriate areas where they can effect change. Today's kickoff included the formation of separate committees to focus on each impediment area. Committees plan to meet on a quarterly or as-needed basis, while the full Council will only meet a few times a year.

Heating Assistance Is Available for Eligible Older Adults

Now is the time eligible older adults can receive \$175 to help with their heating bill costs through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). Single-member households with an income of \$20,597.50 or less and two-person households with an income of \$27,877.50 are eligible to apply. Older adults may get a HEAP application by contacting the Area Office on Aging at 419-382-0624/419-382-0624. Many people who are eligible for HEAP area also eligible for another program to help stay warm. By checking a box on the HEAP application, people can get information about the Home Weatherization Assistance Program. Call the Area Office on Aging at 419-382-0624/419-382-0624 for more details.



The Big Show: Winners and Losers

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

The Truth Contributor

The classic function of the theater is to project and illuminate the feelings and concerns of the community which sustains it.

- Robert Abrahams



The Blade, University of Toledo mayoral Internet debate held last week at UT's Doermann Theatre, minus a live audience, was more a theatrical production than political policy debate. In essence, the event was a question and answer session that afforded The Blade staff the opportunity to ask candidates the sticky questions which they may have been dodging over time.

There were in my opinion, clear winners and losers.

One obvious winner was Sandy Spang. The recently-elected councilwoman was extremely knowledgeable over a broad range of issues and possessed a comfortable familiarity with the processes of municipal government that belie her short tenure on City Council.

Unlike the other candidates, Spang also understood the true context of the "production" and spoke directly to the cameras rather than responding to The Blade's panel of writers. Spang brings support from a wide spectrum of political perspectives.

Another clear winner in the "debate" was former Mayor Mike Bell.

Bell, leveraging the reputation of his parents in the community and his past public service, provided a credible rebuttal to uncomfortable questions of personal character generated by accusations made on social media by a younger woman who claimed the former mayor groped her at a bar.

Bell was also convincing in expressing his change of heart in supporting the anti-union SB5 bill as he explained his rationale for originally supporting the legislation. Remorseful, he will now "respect the will of the citizens" rather than relying on his own thoughts of what is best.

Ohio Governor John Kasich has proven that politicians can survive support of SB5 and Bell will at least get a "minority" percentage of the black vote, which he will share with former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and current Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson.

Bell's presentation was shaped primarily for his base, the business community. He should receive the realtors' endorsement and is vying with Hicks-Hudson for the Chamber of Commerce (who did not expect him to run) endorsement.

Hicks-Hudson was very knowledgeable and academic but soft-spoken during the debate and did not hurt her re-election chances. The one negative concerning the mayor's appearance was the distracting glare from the studio lights in her eyeglasses, which prevented her from looking more personal and engaging in her presentation. Contacts? A good (eye-dea) perhaps.

While the women voting demographic is expected to be split among Hicks-Hudson, Spang and Drabik-Collins, far-left progressive votes are likely to be siphoned from Hicks-Hudson to Mike Ferner. The liberal Ferner acquitted himself very well as a representative of the progressive left. The expanded turnout of up to 70,000 voters precipitated by Issue 3, the Marijuana Legalization legislation, will energize Ferner supporters and serve as a wildcard in the election of mayor to complete the term of late Mayor D. Michael Collins.

Who were the losers?

Sandra Drabik Collins, leveraging the agenda and memory of her late husband, appeared to be visibly nervous, old and tired. Although Collins made several good points, there was very little enthusiasm in her presentation.

Drabik-Collins will attract a small percentage of Democrats, a small percentage of labor, but the majority of her base is expected to be from South Toledo, older white citizens, and a mix of men and women.

Another loser is former three-term mayor Finkbeiner, who was not politically correct and out of touch in calling The Blade panelist Marlene Taylor-Harris "honey," in responding to a question.

At 76 years old, Finkbeiner is not an ally to the LGBT Community or any other contemporary progressive movements. In addition, The Blade has confirmed the Bell administration assertion that he bequeathed an almost \$48 million dollar deficit upon leaving his most recent term. Community leaders, and others, rightfully, are also concerned with how the former mayor treats his staff. Finkbeiner, who has been on the losing end of litigation against civil rights of individuals, has spun the alleged accusations of verbal and emotional abuse of staff as "leadership," but others have characterized his management style as "tyrannical."

"I don't think I need to go into how he treats his staff, and for the people who sit there and say, 'Well this is the type of leadership we need.' No, it's not," lamented a person close to a rival campaign. "That is not leadership. That is being a boss, and there's a difference between being a boss and being a leader. The boss is a person who sits up on the 22nd floor and tells people what to do, cracking a whip. So the boss is the one that's sitting there ordering the horses to go. The leader is the one who's in there with the horses pulling the cart, working with the team, steering the ship with them, that's a leader. Carty is not a leader. And

he's already said, he's like 'I'm only gonna be in for two years,' he said, 'I'm only gonna do two years.' Again, it's not any type of continuity, and continuity is what the city needs right now, given our budget challenges," adds the campaign volunteer.

Yet, despite the candidates' "Showtime performances," a recent poll puts Carty (25.8 percent) and Bell (25.3 percent) in a statistical tie for the lead in election outcome projections. Hicks-Hudson (15.5 percent), Drabik-Collins (14.5 percent), and Spang (9.5 percent) follow at a distance.

With 20,000 new voters in addition to the expected 50,000 expected to show up because of Issue 3, the Blade-UT debate was more meaningless practice run than significant dress rehearsal.

What is certain, however, is that if current Mayor Hicks-Hudson is to be successful in retaining her office, then both the Ohio and Lucas County Democratic Party must step up and make their support for her real instead of merely a "role-playing performance."

Otherwise, the Party will be the real losers.

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

Community Calendar

September 30

Mt. Nebo Church In Time Seminar: Instructor Bill Harris of Rapture Ministries; 6 pm: 419-246-8561

October 1

Kwanzaa Park Community Dinner and Discussion - Toledo Truth Telling: 4:30 to 6:30 pm; Chili supper starting at 4:30; Padua Center: 419-283-8288

October 3

Prisoner Family Conference: Sponsored by Toledoans for Prison Awareness; 9 am to 3 pm; Abundant Life Ministries Church; "How a Prison Sentence Impacts the Family and Loved Ones of the Prisoner"

October 4

St. Mark's MBC 60th Annual Women's Day: "Christian Women Thanking God for His Grace and Mercy;" 11 am speaker is St. Mark's Mother Mildred Gilmore; 4 pm speaker is Sis. Ginger Marie Bell: 419-350-6581/419-350-2887

October 7

Mt. Nebo Church In Time Seminar: Instructor Bill Harris of Rapture Ministries; 6 pm: 419-246-8561

Third Annual African American Forum: Presented by NAMI of Greater Toledo; Warren AME Church; 9 am to 3 pm; Focus on children/adolescents and mental health; Keynote speakers Dr. Olatunde Fatinikin, Larry Hamme, Ph.D, Megan Bond-Stokes, MSW: 419-243-1119

October 10

Libbey HS 5th Annual Spirit of Libbey Christmas Party Organizing Meeting: Reynolds Corner Library; 1:30 pm: 419-450-7227

Josh Project Registration/Orientation for Swim Lessons: Noon to 1 pm; UT Scott Park Campus Room 1080C: 567-343-0766 or info@joshproject.org

October 11

Union Grove MBC Annual Women's Day: 4 pm; "Women with a Charge to Keep and a God to Glorify;" Speaker Sis. Thelma Autman of Shiloh MBC: 419-531-1994

October 17

Josh Project Registration/Orientation for Swim Lessons: Noon to 1 pm; UT Scott Park Campus Room 1080C: 567-343-0766 or info@joshproject.org

October 18

Charity MBC Annual Women's Day: 4 pm; Guest speaker Sis Tammie Knighten of Northwestern MBC

Hyundai Hope On Wheels Award \$10.5 Million in the Month of September, Surpassing \$100 million in Lifetime Funding in the Battle Against Pediatric Cancer

September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – a time to bring awareness to childhood cancer and to recognize the young lives impacted by the disease.

While pediatric cancer is relatively rare and research has created cure rates upwards of 80 percent, pediatric cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease for children in the United States. There are over 15,000 new cases diagnosed each year and one in five of these children will not survive the disease.

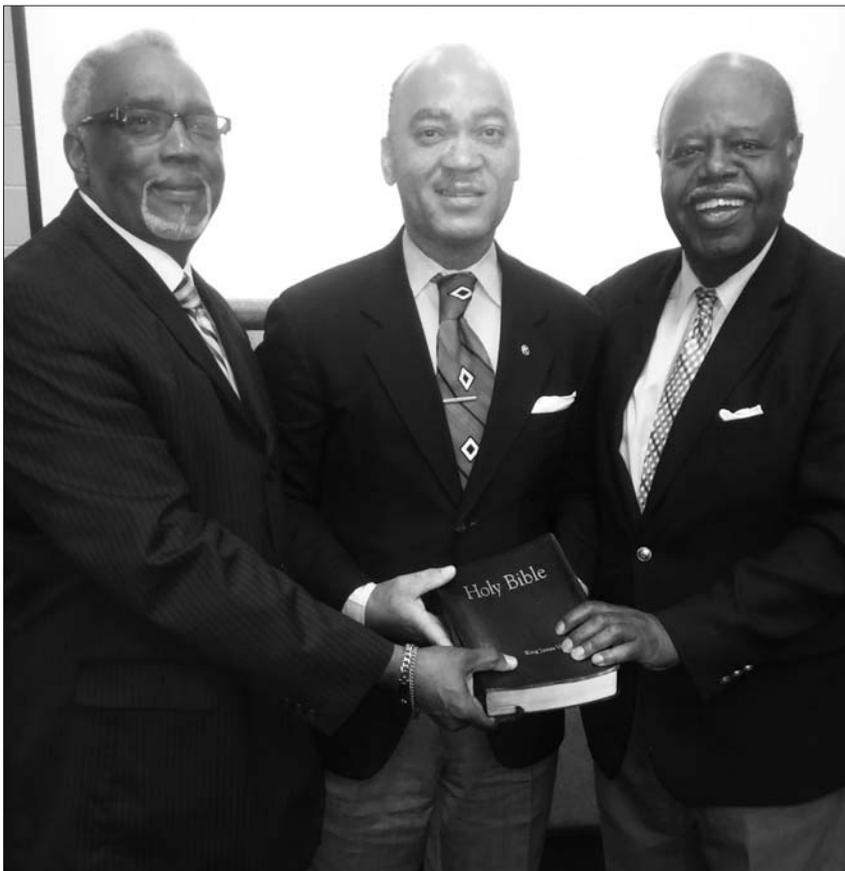
During this month, Hope On Wheels will donate \$10.5 million to 45 Children's Oncology Group (COG) hospitals and institutions across the U.S. in support of continued medical research and programs that improve the quality of life for children with cancer.

At the U.S. Capitol, Hope On Wheels will be joined by members of the Congressional Childhood Cancer Caucus and other elected officials, policymakers, Hyundai executives and dealers, to pay tribute to researchers, child cancer fighters and their families as part of its annual September program.

Hope On Wheels 2015 Scholar Grant winners from institutions across the country will be in attendance. Special recognition will be given to greater Washington, D.C. metro area hospitals that are receiving research grants this year including Children's National Health System, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University and Georgetown University's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.



Dave Zuchowski, President & CEO of the Hyundai Corporation shares a moment with NNPA National Sales Representative Steven Larkin, during the Congressional Black Caucus, at Hyundai's kick off event for their foundation's fight to eradicate childhood cancer, "Hope on Wheels."



Willie Jenkins of the Metropolitan Theological Seminary and Pastor Cedric Brock of Mt. Nebo join Bill Harris C of the Mt Nebo In Time Seminars.

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Request for Proposals Training Services for Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs

RFP#15-R017

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for **Training Services for PH and HCVP. Received in accordance with law until Fri., Oct. 23, 3 PM ET.** For

Documents: www.lucasmha.org, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or 419-259-9446/419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711).

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



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PSYCHOLOGIST

Full-time opening (would consider part-time) for an experienced Psychologist to provide psychological testing and evaluation of children and adults with mental illness and adjustment difficulties. Position will supervise graduate students and selected candidate must be able to include them as a supervisee on their license through the Ohio Board of Psychology.

Qualified candidates must have a doctoral degree and current Ohio licensure as a Psychologist. Must be proficient in the use of an electronic health record.

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources-PSY
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Website: unisonbhg.org
Fax: 419-936-7574

EOE

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Diagnostic Assessor (full or part-time)

Please visit our Web site for more details or apply to:

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Website: unisonbhg.org
Fax: 419-936-7574

EOE

DIRECTOR, NURSING SERVICES

This is a management position responsible for planning, directing, supervising and evaluating all psychiatric and physical health nursing services provided at all sites. Primary duties will include insuring quality nursing care is provided in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, standards and practices, developing and implementing nursing policies and procedures, insuring compliance with certification standards, overseeing the infection control program and monitoring the budget to insure department fiscal goals are met.

Qualified candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree in nursing, (Master's preferred), current Ohio RN license, both psychiatric and physical health nursing experience and a minimum of five years supervisory experience. Position must be able to work a flexible schedule and will travel to various locations where services are provided.

Human Resources -DNS
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
Website: unisonbhg.org

EOE



COME TO THE CASHPALOOZA!

Learn fun ways to coupon, save cash, and look good! Food, crafts, games, prizes including BAGS OF CASH [shredded] and information to save you money from: Financial Opportunity Centers, University of Toledo Financial Aid Office, Dressing Well for Less with Clothes Mentor, and NeighborWorks. These programs are made possible by a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart Investing@YourLibrary(tm), a partnership with the American Library Association.

Date/Time

Saturday, Oct 17 2015 11:00am-3:00pm

Location

Holland Branch General Space

Instructor

Library Staff

Note

11am - 1 pm: Extreme Couponing with LaTisha Williams; 1-2pm Activities and Information tables; 2-3 pm Ten Ways Americans Lose Money—and How NOT To. Jean Kujawa, Professor of Business, Lourdes University.

Status

No Registration Required

Date/Time

Saturday, Oct 03 2015 12:00pm-4:00pm

Location

Mott Branch General Space

Instructor

Library Staff

Note

12-2 pm: Activities and Information tables; 2-4 pm: Extreme Couponing with LaTisha Williams

Status

No Registration Required

Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

The Soulcial Scene

At Home With Mary Louise – Season After Season!

Autumn leaves are falling from the trees and that means that it's time to welcome the holiday season and start preparing the home for Halloween.

When I was a child, my grandmother – Tudda, we called her – would look out the back door at her yard staring at the trees and watching the leaves gently falling to the ground.

Tudda would say “girls, it's time for Halloween.” My sisters and I would get so excited, just overwhelmed. We knew it was time to decorate our home for Halloween – such fun memories.

We also knew it was that time of the year when our grandmother would bake her famous sweet potato pies. My goodness! As my sisters and I decorated, we could smell the pies baking in the oven. My sisters and I could not wait to sink our teeth into the pies topped with homemade whipped cream and doused with a cold glass of milk.

I am very much Tudda's grandchild especially when it comes to the holidays. I keep the traditions alive that she honored by decorating and baking for each and every holiday. I absolutely love celebrating all our holiday events.

I believe that when decorating there should always be a focal point in the center of your home – an area your guests will see when first entering your home. My home's focal point is my living room mantle.

I love decorating the mantle with candles, mini pumpkins and corn stalks with orange ribbons for Halloween. It gives the home a warm welcome feeling.

Pumpkins of all sizes and materials, gourds and bright orange ribbons are key elements of the Halloween theme and easily obtained at many different stores – most of the decorations can be stored for the following years.

And please don't forget the decorative wreath on the front door welcoming your guests. You don't have to wait for the Christmas holiday to bring out the wreath!!

This week, I'm going to share my grandmother's famous sweet potato pie recipe for Halloween – from my kitchen to yours.

Happy Halloween!!

Grandmother's Sweet Potato Pie

- Ingredients**
 1/3 cup of butter – softened
 1/2 cup – sugar
 2 eggs – lightly beaten
 3/4 cup evaporated milk
 2 cups mashed sweet potatoes
 1 tsp vanilla extract
 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
 1/4 tsp salt

Preparation

- Preheat oven to 450 degrees
 In a bowl, cream the butter, add sugar and eggs – mix well. Add milk, sweet potatoes, vanilla extract, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt – mix well.
 Pour mixture into pie crust.
 Bake at 450 degrees for 15 minutes
 Turn over down to 350 degrees. Bake pie for 35-40 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean.
 Cool and refrigerate



Mary Louise

Contact Mary Louise at marylouiseatthetruthtoleado.com



AALC'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Leadership Development Committee was formed with the intent to become a resource for the cultivation of Entry Level and Mid-Level leaders in the African American Community.

LUNCH WITH LEADERS SUCCESES

The Lunch with Leaders series has proven to be a strong networking event among African American Leaders in our community. This event has also provided a venue to obtain foundational leadership knowledge and skills to strengthen those who are in a leadership role in various sectors of the broader community.

RESULTS OF SURVEYS

The Lunch with Leaders surveys indicate that this resource is needed in our community. The participants also have requested more information and additional opportunity to professionally development in the areas of networking, mentoring and personal branding.

FOCUS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

The 2015-2016 will continue to build upon 2014's Foundational Leadership base. The Lunch with Leaders will explore the critical need for leaders to connect to their community, cultivate their leadership skills by giving back to their community, and impact their community by discovering the needs and how leaders can close gaps.

CURRENT MEMBERS & INVITATION TO JOIN!

THE 2015-2016 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Amelia Gibbon, The Friendly Center, Co-chair
- Dr. Patrice McClellan, Lourdes University, Co-chair
- Evelyn McKinney, United Way
- John Jones, ProMedica
- Brittany Jones, Children's Hunger Alliance
- Lionel Brock, Transamerica Financial Advisors
- Robin Reeves, Reeves Etiquette
- Reginald Temple, First Federal Bank
- Sommer Clayborne, Partner in Education
- Carolyn Kusi, Owens Corning

INTERESTED IN JOINING UNITED WAY'S AALC?

Email africanamericancouncil@unitedwaytoledo.org.



A Breast Cancer Survivor's Story: Barbara Hampton

As Told to Carla Yvette

It is hard to imagine what women who are diagnosed with breast cancer go through. It is my hope that those facing this diagnosis will find comfort, encouragement and inspiration from others who've been through it . . . and survived.

Barbie's Journey:

In December 2008, I went for my first mammogram and there were no concerns. But only three weeks later, during my own self-examination, I discovered a lump. I went to bed knowing it wouldn't be there the next day; however, when I awoke, the lump was still there. An immediate call to the doctor's office was the beginning of the next 18-month journey of tears, fear, anger and treatments.

My doctor confirmed my self-diagnosis of the lump and set up an appointment for a biopsy to be performed within the next few days. When I left the hospital on Wednesday, I was advised that I would receive the results by that following Monday. However, my heart sank when my phone rang on Friday hearing the doctor on the other end informing me that my results were back and they requested I come to the office on Monday.....and bring a family member.

In a time of disbelief, nervousness, uncertainty my heart sank further, and I started to cry. My co-workers took over my work, helping me to get on my way. On January 12, 2009, I was given my diagnosis of breast cancer with my mother and sister at my side. This, of course, was devastating news.

Cancer doesn't run in my family, so I didn't know what to expect. The doctors passionately assisted me through my journey. February 13, 2009 was the date of my surgery to remove my lump.

The day before the operation, I attended church with my two daughters. Astonishingly, the service was about "NO FEAR." I felt as if the pastor was talking directly to me. I awoke the next day to prepare for my surgery and

realized I wasn't afraid. I had no fear and was finally ready to fight this cancer.

Going through chemotherapy, radiation and losing my hair was the toughest time that I had to endure. My mother reminded me often that I was strong and I could, and would, survive this. At one point, I did experience a scare during my radiation treatment. I felt like I was having a heart attack.

After spending a week going through many tests, I was finally released on the Friday before the Susan Komen Walk for the Cure. I was determined to participate that Sunday. Since, I had just gotten out of the hospital, I was asked to ride in the trolley that started the race off. The experience was so overwhelmingly emotional that I will never forget that feeling. With God's help and prayer, I made it through. I AM A SURVIVOR!

I would like to thank my family, friends and co-workers that supported me and continue to do so every single day. Special thank you to my daughter Shayla, who was on my side every minute of the day.



Breast Cancer Survivor, Barb Hampton



Carols Crew



Aniya, Aja, Eric and Eliza Wright



Team Sonya



Camerren Webb and Myleene Labiche



K'Shaun Gilmer with Arney and Kim Taylor



Janeisha Galloway and Destini Levesque



Extreme Results, Team Tosha and Ahjaynay



Fab Fit, Team LaTanya



Team Yolanda Emery



Team Walk the Word