



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

Main Campus

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MCCC SCHEDULES TWO ADDITIONAL
BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS**

MONROE, Mich. – Monroe County Community College has scheduled two additional events in honor of Black History Month.

The college has already held several events this month to honor black history and continues to host an African art display.

All events free and open to the public.

The two added events are:

- **“African Peoples”** – Presented by Mr. Xavier Allen, historian, actor and historical re-enactor, on Monday, February 23 from 5-6 p.m. in the La-Z-Boy Center Atrium.
- **“Vocational or Liberal Arts for African Americans: A Historical Perspective”** – Presented by MCCC President Dr. Kojo Quartey, on Tuesday, February 24 from noon-1 p.m. in the Dining Room of the Audrey M. Warrick Student Services/Administration Building.

On **Saturday, February 28**, the last of the previously scheduled Black History Month Events will take place: **“The Negro Leagues,” a speech by legendary Negro League baseball player Ted Toles Jr. Toles will speak at 1 p.m. in Rooms 257/258 of the La-Z-Boy Center.**

(more)

Toles played mostly as a pitcher for many teams in both the Negro League and minor leagues in the 1940s and 50s. He will share his life story, which is the subject of a new book, “Living on Borrowed Time.”

Toles was born on December 4, 1925, and as the first of eight children, he was no stranger to race issues. He was the first black child born in the small farm town of Braceville, Ohio, and his father was the first black sheriff’s deputy in the county.

He broke into professional baseball with the Pittsburgh Crawfords in 1946 and continued his professional career playing with the Jackie Robinson Travelling All Stars, Newark Eagles, Cleveland Buckeyes and Jacksonville Eagles of the Negro Leagues . In 1950, Toles was signed by the Cleveland Indians during an open tryout at Cleveland’s League Park, which began a minor league career that spanned five minor league teams.

Later in life, Toles was celebrated by the Topps Baseball Card Company, becoming the first Negro League player who did not eventually play in the Major leagues to appear on a Topps Baseball Card.

Today, Toles enjoys sharing his story through speaking engagements for many different organizations.

For more information regarding Black History Month events at MCCC, contact Molly McCutchan, director of human resources, at (734) 384-4245 or mmccutchan@monroeccc.edu.

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