



155 Miami St. ▪ Tiffin, OH 44883  
Phone: 1-800-YOU-OHIO ▪ [www.tiffin.edu](http://www.tiffin.edu)

## **NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 24, 2018**

**Contact:** Lisa W. Williams, Executive Director of University Relations  
**Telephone:** 419-448-3444 **Email:** [lwilliam@tiffin.edu](mailto:lwilliam@tiffin.edu)

### **TU to Present “A New Leash on Life” Featuring Louis Belluomini & his Service Dog Star Wednesday, November 7, 2:30 p.m.**

**TIFFIN UNIVERSITY, Tiffin, OH**—In remembrance of Veterans Day, Tiffin University will present “A New Leash on Life” featuring Louis (Louie) Belluomini and his service dog, Star, on Wednesday, November 7 at 2:30 p.m. Belluomini will discuss stereotypes and myths about service dogs and PTSD. The event will take place in Chisolm Auditorium located inside of Franks Hall on TU’s campus and the community is encouraged to attend free of charge. Reservations are not necessary.

#### **About Louie Belluomini**

Louie served in the Army for 9 years, as a psychological operations specialist and a military police officer. He was honorably discharged as a Captain in 2015 after serving tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Belluomini suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and a traumatic brain injury after his deployments and decided to pursue a treatment plan involving a K9. Belluomini and Star, a 3-year-old golden retriever were paired together by K9s for Warriors.

Louie has worked as a paramedic in the local communities for the past 10 years and currently works at Hanco EMS in Findlay, Ohio and as a paramedic at Putnam County EMS in Ottawa, Ohio. Louie has worked as a flight medic in his career and has deployed to Hurricane Katrina as a paramedic. Belluomini and Star are side-by-side every day; Star works on the ambulance with him and is constantly attending to Louie's needs. Star is the first dog in the country to actively work on an ambulance with her handler. Star is cross-trained to track and search for people in case they have a lost victim they respond to.

For additional information, contact Director of Veterans and Military Services Denise Burkin, [burkind@tiffin.edu](mailto:burkind@tiffin.edu) or call 419-448-3340.

**About TIFFIN UNIVERSITY**

Founded in 1888, TU has become a premier university for challenging students to enhance their global competencies for success in a diverse world. The University enrolls students in undergraduate and graduate degree programs in Tiffin, Ohio, at several locations in Ohio, online, and in several foreign countries. The campus at Tiffin is a blend of traditional historic and modern buildings, creating a vibrant and warm home for a culturally diverse educational community. Throughout its history, TU has maintained its dedication to providing a professionally focused, learning-centered education to prepare students for successful careers and for productive and satisfying lives of excellence, leadership, and service. Tiffin University's faculty offers a unique combination of practical application with scholarly knowledge. The TU approach to learning and skill set development insists on connecting students to the workplace as soon, and as often, as possible during their college experience through internships.

**TU NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Tiffin University is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for employees, applicant for employment, students or applicant for admission, access to educational opportunities on the basis of race, religion, personal appearance, color, sex, pregnancy, political affiliation, social-economic class, place of business, residence, religion, creed, ethnicity, national origin (including ancestry), citizenship status, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, family responsibilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran or military status (including special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran, or recently separated veteran), predisposing genetic characteristics, domestic violence victim status or any other protected category under applicable local, state or federal law, including protections for those opposing discrimination or participating in any resolution process on campus or within the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or other human rights agencies. All complaints of sexual harassment/misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, bullying, cyber-bullying Vice Provost for Equity, Access, & Opportunity, stalking, or discrimination should be reported to Dr. Perry-Fantini, Vice Provost for Equity, Access, & Opportunity/Title IX Coordinator, [perryfantinis@tiffin.edu](mailto:perryfantinis@tiffin.edu) or 419-448-3504 or visit: [www.tiffin.edu/institutionaldiversity/](http://www.tiffin.edu/institutionaldiversity/)