



Urbana University Partners with TFBT

One of the most exciting things to happen to **The Future Begins Today** is the new partnership with Urbana University. Beginning last fall, Urbana University offered to award one tuition and room scholarship to a qualified Last Dollar Grant recipient planning to attend Urbana.

“The Future Begins Today is an outstanding organization with a meaningful mis-



l to r: Bob Keller, Ron Scott, Dr. Robert Head, Cheryl Cotner, Jill Wilson

sion of assisting youth in their quest for a quality education,” Dr. Head commented. “Urbana University is pleased to begin its partnership with **The Future Begins Today** by offering an annual scholarship to one of its outstanding students.”

Criteria and Applications are available from **TFBT** office or on our web site at www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Tim Hortons Sends Girls to Camp



“A year ago when Alison Holland phoned me and said she wanted to send some of our elementary kids to camp in Canada, my first thought was “no way, we could never afford to do that”, said Cheryl Cotner, Executive Director.

What a surprise when I learned that the Tim Hortons restaurant chain pays all expenses to send about 10,000 children to six camps in Canada every summer. The Troy restaurant, owned by Ryan and Alison Holland, and Stella Davies, has generously selected students from **TFBT** to send in 2005 and again in 2006. This summer 3 girls will fly to Quebec Canada for a full week of pure fun. They will be treated to swimming, hiking, canoeing, water tubing, and other activities. “The food is delicious.” said Stella Davies. “The camps look like fancy resorts. About 300 kids attend each session, and this year our girls will be treated to a full day in the

beautiful city of Ottawa, the capital of Canada. The camps are intended to mentor children that would never have a camp opportunity. Along with normal camp activities, the program also builds self esteem and confidence in the children.”

The Tim Hortons Children’s Foundation provides the funding for this program. Each restaurant store has camp boxes at the registers for donations of change. In addition, each store has a Camp Day in the spring and all coffee sales go toward sending the kids to camp. Mark your calendar this year for Wednesday, June 7 and support the Tim Hortons Camp Day.

MIAMI COUNTY FOUNDATION

The Miami County Foundation has recently awarded **TFBT** with a grant to purchase a new computer and combination printer, fax, copy and scan machine.

Following a computer crash last fall, the new equipment will assist with protection for back up and provide the office with the latest software program.

We are extremely grateful to the Miami County Foundation for recognizing the importance of this grant to us. Jeremy Baird has volunteered his time to get the new system up and running.

Members of the Board of Trustees are volunteers and are committed to the work and advancement of **TFBT**. Tami Baird Ganley, Linda Daniel, Clarice Francis, Robb Howell, Jane Johnson, Dan Kerber, David Levorchick, Wanda Lukens, Kay Lutz, Donna McGraw, Steve Nolan, Ray Pruitt, Pat Robinson, Karen Rodgers, Ted Roller, Ron Scott, Todd Severt, Brian Williamson, Jill Wilson, and Alan Zunke.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of **The Future Begins Today** program is to provide mentoring and support for Troy community students willing to commit themselves to the pursuit of educational goals that foster life-long opportunities for success.



TROY STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



Look for our booth at the Strawberry Festival and stop by to sample the delicious Strawberry Salsa. Winner of the 2004 Best Strawberry Culinary Award, all proceeds from salsa sales support The Last Dollar Grant.

Pre-sale orders by the case are available from May 15 - 25. Cost is \$55 per case of twelve jars.

For more information,

visit www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org or call 332-0467.



BUY STRAWBERRY SALSA AND HELP SUPPORT TFBT



Joyce Fulton receives a Certificate of Appreciation for her support of TFBT and its programs.

If you miss the Strawberry Festival, you can still purchase the delicious Strawberry Salsa.

Also known as "Sweet Heat", the salsa was introduced at the 2004 Troy Strawberry Festival. It has quickly become a very successful way for the community to support **The Future Begins Today**.

Three businesses in Troy are now selling the delicious salsa: Fulton's

Farm, Bakehouse Bread & Cookie Co, and Winan's Fine Chocolate & Coffees.

Visit our web site for recipes and serving suggestions using the salsa.

www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org



FESTIVAL PARADE



members, and college students will come together for this fun activity.

Watch for the **TFBT** float in the Strawberry Festival Parade. You can't miss it! Look for a huge jar of strawberry salsa wearing a graduation mortar board on top.

Students, parents, Lunch Buddies, board



LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

"While the Last Dollar Grants are important, what I really appreciate about TFBT is the emphasis that is placed on reaching the elementary and junior high school students in our community with the game nights, family nights, and CSI Summer Camp. It reaches the children at a meaningful and vulnerable time in their lives."



Steve Baker

Announcing New Board Members

The Future Begins Today is pleased to announce the appointment of four new members to the Board of Trustees. Clarice Francis, Jane Johnson, David Levorchick and Brian Williamson have volunteered to serve for a three year term. Each brings a huge amount of community leadership experience as well as the understanding of and their dedication to our mission.

The Future Begins Today has partnered with the TNT Supreme Clean Car Wash for a fundraising program called Wash With A Cause. 15 % of the cost of combined car washes will be deposited directly to TFBT program. Our goal is to raise \$1000 for the CSI Summer Camp. The more you wash, the more we receive. **Punch in code 5150.**

TNT

SUPREME CLEAN

1947 Donn Davis Way (Across from Arbogast Car Dealership)

Wash with a cause!
Clean well, do good.

15%

goes directly to
The Future Begins Today

- 1) Pull up to any automated wash bay
- 2) Enter **5150** on the keypad
- 3) Make payment/select your wash option

Keep this card in your glove compartment for future reference.
Watch our contributions grow at: www.washwithacause.com

Last Dollar Grant

Applications are now being accepted for the Last Dollar Grant and are due before June 30th. To qualify for the grant the student must be a graduate of THS or TCHS within the last 5 years. He/she must have a 2.0 grade point and show with official documentation the financial need for the grant. After the student has acquired the other monies thru loans, grants, scholarship, work, parents, etc, The Last Dollar Grant can help to narrow the gap with up to \$1200 needed to pay the tuition, room and board at the school of choice.

This year 54 Last Dollar Grants totaling over \$57,000 were awarded. For more information, visit our website www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org or call 332-0467.



Annual College Day Visit

80 elementary students, along with school counselors and Board Members from **TFBT** spent the day at Urbana University in April. This program gave the students the experience to see and to learn what it is like to go to college. Students were greeted by Dr. Robert Head, President of Urbana University and Dr. Jim Daniel, formerly with Troy City Schools and now Associate Professor of Education at Urbana. Everyone was treated to a special picnic lunch and received a tee shirt from the University.

“This is just one more example of the wonderful partnership Urbana University has formed with us. For most of the students this is their first introduction to college.” said Jill Wilson, chairman of **TFBT** Board of Trustees.



Edison Marketing Plan

TFBT has partnered with the Senior Marketing class at Edison Community College for the spring semester. This is the capstone class for graduating seniors who are marketing majors. Terry Spridgeon and Brian Collins have worked on a marketing plan for the strawberry salsa that will allow us to reach more potential buyers. Mrs. Ruth Barney, the instructor of the class, said “This opportunity gives my students on the job training with real purpose.” TFBT is very excited to have this relationship with Edison Community College.



CSI Summer Camp

CSI Summer Camp, (Career Scene Investigation), is planned for June 12, 13 and 14. The day camp is held at the Jr. High School and will bring together 7th graders and business people. Students from **TFBT** program will discover what jobs they might pursue once they graduate. Local businesses provide on-site career experiences. Career experiences include medical fields, food service, masonry, fire and EMT, police work, and the legal field.

SUPPORT THE FUTURE WITH A GIFT TO TROY STUDENTS

YES, I want to support the important work that **The Future Begins Today** is doing! Here is my tax-deductible contribution. If you would like to make your gift in honor or in memory of someone special, please indicate below.

In Honor or In Memory of _____

Please send acknowledgement of this gift to:

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ to support the students of Troy and **TFBT**.

GIFT LEVELS:

Freshman—Under \$25 Sophomore—\$25-\$99 Junior—\$100-\$249
Senior—\$250-\$499 Graduate—\$500-\$999 Scholar—\$1000 or greater
Other—\$ _____

Make checks payable to: **The Future Begins Today**, P O Box 511, Troy, OH 45373

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

No tax dollars support **The Future Begins Today**. All donations directly benefit students and are used for the Lunch Buddies and Homework Helper Elementary Program, as well as the Jr. High and High School Programs and The Last Dollar Scholarship Grants. **The Future Begins Today** is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt, publicly supported organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.



P.O. Box 511
Troy, Ohio 45373

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Permit # 495
Troy, OH 45373

BULLETIN BOARD AND PHOTO GALLERY



Brukner

The Future Begins Today elementary students and their families spent an evening at Brukner Nature Center. Deb Brill, Administrative Director at the Center, presented the program to the students. She introduced them to this friendly Black Rat Snake, as well as a Red-tailed Hawk, and a Bald Turkey Vulture.



Family Game Night

The annual Family Game Night, held in March at Cookson Elementary was very successful. Both Meijers and Wal-Mart donated to this activity.



Become a Lunch Buddy

Lunch Buddies are always welcome to mentor an elementary student at lunch once a month. Often the Buddies take a more active role and become a positive and encouraging person to help the student succeed in school. If interested, call 332-0467 or contact: ccotner@TheFutureBeginsToday.org

FORMS Program

TFBT has established a new program called the FORMS Program (Filling Out Required Materials for Students). It is designed to assist any Troy parents and their students who are planning to attend a college, university or trade school next year. FORMS will provide help in completing the FAFSA Application. Amy Barnhart, Director of Student Financial Services at Urbana University, conducted the training for TFBT volunteers. FORMS is available by appointment; 332-0467.

Leadership Troy Prog. Assists TFBT

The Future Begins Today feels lucky again this year to be selected by the Leadership Troy Program to receive an intern from the class of 2006. Mr. Jeff Schultz is Troy High School Dean of Students and Athletic Trainer. Jeff has been very supportive and enthusiastic about TFBT and will be instrumental in helping to plan for our success at the Strawberry Festival. Jeff will serve as a non-voting member of the Board from March thru October.



Mayor supports TFBT

Do you know that Mayor Michael Beamish supports TFBT every time he performs a wedding ceremony? In lieu of payment when the Mayor performs a wedding, he suggests the happy couple make a contribution to TFBT or Dollars for Scholars. To date, more than \$2000 has been donated to TFBT.

HATS OFF TO OUR MAYOR!



THE FUTURE BEGINS TODAY IS VERY GRATEFUL TO NOLAN, GIERE & COMPANY FOR CONDUCTING OUR YEARLY REVIEW AND TO PEOPLES SAVINGS BANK FOR PROVIDING OFFICE SPACE TO THE FUTURE BEGINS TODAY.