



## Kids to College Project

Even the blizzard of 2008 could not keep “kids from going to college”. After months of planning, Edison Community College had to partially postpone the final lesson for Van Cleve 6th Grade School students. The blizzard began to arrive shortly after these students arrived at Edison. Sponsored with funding from Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corp, ECC developed a career and college awareness program for Van Cleve. **TFBT** is one of the partners in the “Kids to College” program. With the help of many volunteers the 320 students were able to complete the program in April.



Greg Taylor, a Lunch Buddy for TFBT, helps at the simulation.



4th and 5th grade students in **TFBT** were also able to spend a day at Edison in April for **TFBT** Annual College Visit Day. Said Cheryl Cotner, Director of **TFBT**, “**The Future Begins Today** is very appreciative of Edison which has provided wonderful opportunities for the students of Troy and **TFBT**.”



Alison Holland



Stephanie Johnson



Dot Ristoff

## TFBT Announces Board Appointments

**The Future Begins Today** announces three new members to the Board of Trustees. Alison Holland (owner of Tim Hortons in Troy and Piqua), Stephanie Johnson (Principal of Troy Jr. High) and Dot Ristoff (formerly Troy City Schools) will serve a three-year term. Each has been a positive influence in other community activities and they will provide strong leadership for **TFBT**.

## Leadership Troy Program 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 2008. Cheryl Leonard, Program Officer for The Troy Foundation, will be instrumental in helping to plan future activities with **TFBT**. Cheryl will serve as a non-voting member of the Board from March thru October. **TFBT** is delighted to be working with someone representing The Troy Foundation.

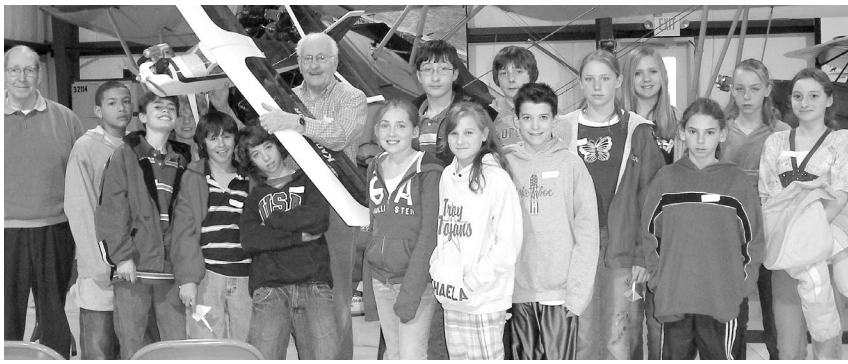
**Members of the Board of Trustees are volunteers** and are committed to the work and advancement of **TFBT**. *Chairman:* Linda A. Daniel, *Past Chairman:* Jill A. Wilson, *Vice Chairman:* Tami Baird Ganley, *Secretary:* Clarice N. Francis, *Treasurer:* Karen F. Rodgers, Tonya K.. Dickerson, Alison Holland, Robb Howell, Rick Jackson, Jane M. Johnson, Stephanie Johnson, David Levorchick, Donna McGraw, Janet J. Newnam, Steve R. Nolan, Sarah J. Redinbo, Janet L. Rhodes, Dot Ristoff, Todd D. Severt, Sharon B. Tecklenburg, Brian R. Williamson, Alan T. Zunke, *Honorary Trustees:* Wanda Lukens, Kay Lutz, Pat Robinson, *Leadership Troy Intern:* Cheryl Leonard, *Executive Director:* Cheryl B. Cotner



### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of The Future Begins Today is to provide a Community Based Nurturing and Financial Support Program for Troy Students





## Van Cleve 6th Graders and WACO Planes

This year's students from Van Cleve 6th Grade School were able to learn about the world famous WACO bi-plane once made in Troy. With the help of Karen Purke, Director WACO Historical Society, and her volunteers, 320 students followed up on what they had learned in the classroom and spent a day at the WACO Museum located on County Road 25-A. Each group of 15 went through a variety of activities at six different learning stations. WACO was in Troy from 1921-1946 and is an important part of Troy History. The WACO Fly-In will be weekend of September 19th at WACO Field. To date TFBT has helped over 700 students learn about the importance that the WACO Company continues to play in the history of Troy.



## Gingerbread House Family Activity

Students got into the Christmas spirit last December when the popular Gingerbread House Family Activity was held at Forest School. 156 people, including the students, parents, grandparents, and siblings, came together to create their own unique houses. The activity was sponsored by a grant from Project G.I.F.T. associated with Teen Leadership of Troy and The Troy Foundation.

## Tim Hortons® Offers Camp Opportunities



Kylie Hathaway from Van Cleve School



Aleecia Christian from Cookson School

Tim Hortons Children's Foundation pays all expenses to send about 10,000 children to camps in Canada and Kentucky every summer. The Troy restaurant has selected boys and girls from TFBT for the past three summers. This summer 2 girls will go to Kentucky for a full week of pure fun where they will be treated to swimming, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, water skiing, tubing, pontoon cruises and overnight camping. About 300 kids attend each session and the camps are intended to mentor children that would never have a camp opportunity. Along with normal camp activities, the program also helps children build self esteem and confidence in themselves.

Each restaurant 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 4th and support the Tim Horton's Camp Day.**

# Troy Strawberry Festival



Look for our booth in the middle of the levy 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*. For more information, visit [www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org](http://www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org) or call 332-0467.

*Delivery truck arrives in Troy with load of Strawberry Salsa for the festival.*

## Festival Parade

Students, parents, Lunch Buddies, and Board Members will participate in building and riding on the float in the parade. The float design is a huge jar of Strawberry Salsa wearing a Graduation Mortar Board on the top. This symbolizes the program's goal to help students graduate and links the Strawberry Salsa to this program. Salsa sale proceeds go toward *Last Dollar Grants*.



## Buy Strawberry Salsa and Help Support Programs

If you miss the Strawberry Festival, you can still purchase the delicious Strawberry Salsa. Also known as "Sweet Heat", it was introduced at the 2004 Troy Strawberry Festival. It has quickly become a successful way for the community to support **The Future Begins Today**. Three businesses in Troy are selling the delicious salsa: Fulton's Farm, Bakehouse Bread & Cookie Co, and Winan's Fine Chocolates & Coffees.

Visit our web site for recipes and serving suggestions using the salsa. [www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org](http://www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org)

# Time to Apply for Last Dollar Grant



Applications are now being accepted for the *Last Dollar Grant* to college 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 \$1,200 needed to pay the tuition, room and board at the school of choice. Past grant recipients are encouraged to apply each year.

35 *Last Dollar Grants* were awarded for the 2007-08 academic year.

For more information and an application, visit <http://www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org> or call 332-0467.

# Urbana University Helps Troy Students



It is not too late to apply for the Urbana University scholarship. One of the most exciting things to happen to **TFBT** is the partnership with Urbana University. It offers **one tuition scholarship** to a quali-

fied *Last Dollar Grant* recipient planning to attend Urbana University.

Criteria and Applications are available from **TFBT** office or on web site at [www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org](http://www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org)

In addition to the scholarship, Urbana University assists in other ways. Amy Barnhart, Director of Financial Affairs, conducted three training sessions to teach filling out financial aid forms for college. Also, in March Urbana University students spent one morning at Van Cleve 6th Grade School sharing experiences about what it is like to go to college. Van Cleve celebrated the day when the teachers and staff wore their college apparel and talked about their experiences to the students.

# Edison Marketing Class

**TFBT** has partnered with the Senior Marketing class at Edison Community College. This is the capstone class for students who are marketing majors. Senior student Misty Sirch is the marketing intern for **TFBT** and also works full time at the American Heart Association. Mrs. Ruth Barney, the instructor of the class, believes that service learning opportunities give her students some of the necessary 'on the job training' with real purpose. **TFBT** is very pleased to continue this relationship with Edison Community College.



Misty Sirch, Cheryl Cotner, and Ruth Barney



# TFBT Recognizes

## THE TROY FOUNDATION

Since 1924 The Troy Foundation has been of unique service to the community by awarding grants for various needs. **The Future Begins Today** is grateful to receive a generous grant from The Troy Foundation to assist with our programs. Other contributions come to **TFBT** from donors who give to us thru The Troy Foundation. **TFBT** Endowment Fund within The Troy Foundation allows donations to be made directly into this fund.



## UNITED WAY OF TROY

Thank you to everyone who designated **The Future Begins Today** for your contribution to 2007 Campaign for United Way of Troy. As a designated United Way agency, **TFBT** received 100% of your donation.



## MIAMI COUNTY FOUNDATION

Miami County Foundation has recently awarded **TFBT** Miami County with a grant for 2008. The grant will offset the **Foundation** printing and mailing costs for this year's newsletters as well as assist in production cost for a DVD. "We are extremely grateful to the Miami County Foundation for recognizing the importance of this grant to us," said Cheryl Cotner, Executive Director. "It will allow us to produce a DVD that can be used in a variety of activities." Students from the Troy High School video class are assisting in this project.



Cheryl Stiefel-Francis, Executive Director MCF and Cheryl Cotner

## 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**.

Make check payable to: **The Future Begins Today**, PO 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

937-332-0467

[www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org](http://www.TheFutureBeginsToday.org)

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# BULLETIN BOARD

## Chef's Table Gourmet Dinner

Winners of the Chef's Table Gourmet Dinner fundraiser did not expect there would be a blizzard the day before the dinner but that made the scenery at Brian Williamson's *Cabin on the Creek* a spectacular sight to see. Sharon and Tom Tecklenburg were the lucky winners who treated their friends to a great afternoon of fun and food. **TFBT** college students acted as hosts, servers and clean up crew. The fundraiser was so successful that **TFBT** plans to do it again in the fall. Thank you to everyone who supported us by buying the raffle tickets.



## TFBT Students meet Coach Jim Tressel



Ohio State football coach, Jim Tressel, spoke to a packed house at Hobart Arena in March. His message was about 'doing the right thing'. Coach Tressel (left) Nathaniel Felter (5th grade) is in the middle and Kane Feltner (4th) is on the right. Nathaniel and Kane are cousins.

## WELCOME TO TROY

Troy has two new entrance signs to greet people coming into town. Located at Main and Dorset Streets and South Market Street both signs feature **TFBT** bright yellow sign. *Welcome To Troy!*



**Give Hope and Help** — Established in 1993, **The Future Begins Today** is a non-profit program focused on helping Troy children succeed with their education and to become active citizens within their communities. Your financial support for **The Future Begins Today** is essential to continue giving **hope and help** to students, parents, counselors, and teachers. **TFBT** does not receive any public money. Funding comes from private donations and various foundations and grants, including the Duke-Robinson Fund, Illinois Tool Works Foundation, The Miami County Foundation, The Paul G. Duke Foundation, The Troy Foundation, Thomas E. and Patricia D. Robinson Fund and the United Way of Troy. *Your tax-deductible contribution will always stay in Troy.*

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