



# THE CORNERSTONE PILLAR



Welcome to the second edition of The Cornerstone Pillar! We received many positive comments regarding the inaugural edition of The Pillar and encourage you to share your thoughts with us.

Many positive changes are underway. This past week, we received charters for our Grove and Redford campuses. We are committed to maintaining an excellent education at all three locations. Our Partner Program remains vital to these efforts and we look forward to seeing you at the next Partner Morning at our campuses.

In this edition of The Pillar, you will be introduced to a special Cornerstone corporate partner, PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLC, in Detroit. We are blessed to have the support of this organization as they give to Cornerstone in so many ways.

We are pleased to introduce you to a treasured faculty member, Loraine Murphy, reacquaint you with a former Cornerstone student, Natasha McCastle, acknowledge and give special thanks to those who give so kindly of their products and services, recap some of our most recent community building events, and proudly share the work of some talented Cornerstone students.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Cornerstone Pillar.

May God Bless You –

Hope Redmond  
Vice President, Institutional Advancement

*Changing Detroit,  
One Child at a Time.*



Corey Biven with his partner, Curtis Kennedy, a 7th Grader at Redford.

## Helping Build A Brighter Future - PriceWaterhouseCoopers

Cornerstone students have long benefited from the generosity of individuals. Equally important are our corporate partners, who give generously of their time and money. One such partner is PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP (PWC), the world's largest professional services firm, popular in Michigan for its dedication to creating a fair and ethical workplace. PWC has been involved with Cornerstone for eleven years, and has recently initiated a program dedicated to developing future leaders. Different PWC firms throughout the United States reach out to

organizations in their community which they believe can make a difference and shape the leaders of tomorrow. PWC Detroit chose to invest in Cornerstone!

"Cornerstone," says Shane Rodgers, a manager with PWC in the Assurance Practice, "is absolutely a perfect organization that supports this cause. I am touched and inspired by the politeness, maturity and professionalism of the students every time I step foot in one of the schools."

(Continued on Page 2)

### Upcoming Events

4th Annual Be A Tiger For Kids	August 18
Henkel Fore A Cause Golf Outing	August 31
Turning Point Invitational	September 14
Cornerstone Women for Scholarship 2nd Annual Golf Invitational	September 21
Redford Partner Morning	September 22
Grove Partner Morning	September 23
Nevada Partner Morning	September 25

### Be A Tiger For Kids

Come & meet Detroit Tigers greats Gates Brown, Willie Horton, Dan Petry, Dave Rozema & Dave Bergman at the Rock-N-Roar tailgate on



**August 18th**

[Click here for details](#)

3rd Quarter, 2009

## Helping Build A Brighter Future - PriceWaterhouseCoopers (continued)

(Continued from Page 1)

PWC has always been dedicated to operating under a strong values system. Employees from PWC attend the Cornerstone Partner Morning Sessions at the Nevada, Grove, and Redford campuses, provide accounting services and volunteer in various community service projects to benefit Cornerstone, such as pitching in for landscaping and painting projects at the various campuses.

Today, PriceWaterhouseCoopers is an integral Cornerstone partner, and one can always expect to see a PWC face among the crowd at any Cornerstone event. PWC's dedication and generosity to Cornerstone continues to help Cornerstone students and the community. The lives they change will reaffirm the company's faith that they can help to shape the leaders of tomorrow, who in turn will help to guide our Detroit community toward a brighter future.



PWC employees participating in the recent "I Am Cornerstone" video shoot. More than 20 employees took part in this video.

## Upholding The Cornerstone Vision - Loraine Murphy

Whether you've been a part of Cornerstone for years or have just become a first-time partner, you've probably heard the name Loraine Murphy. Loraine, the Academic Dean and Director of the Cornerstone Institute, has been at Cornerstone Schools for seventeen years, and is an integral part of the community. While she maintains a large area of responsibility, Loraine feels that her most important role is working with the principals and teachers to help Cornerstone children become the best that they can be.

Before coming to Cornerstone, Loraine worked in Ohio, Mississippi, and Peru. While teaching at a parochial school in Detroit, Loraine heard about Cornerstone and was inspired. She applied, and the rest, she says, "is history". Today, it's hard to imagine Cornerstone without her influence. She works primarily with the President, princi-

pals, and faculty to create, monitor and implement the exceptional Cornerstone curriculum.

As the Director of the Cornerstone Institute, her main goal is to help prepare faculty and staff to meet Cornerstone standards and overcome the challenges of delivering an excellent urban education. Loraine works to develop all of Cornerstone's educational resources, creating external and internal opportunities for faculty and staff development and increasing enhanced resources such as literature, software, and other supportive materials that will reinforce these programs. Through her efforts, Loraine is able to help the teachers impact the lives of the children.

In addition to working to maintain and further Cornerstone's academic prowess,

Loraine is very committed to upholding the vision, philosophy and mission of the school - a mission dedicated to helping the children grow in a Christian environment to become leaders in transforming our city for good. She firmly believes that it is through the concerted effort of the teachers, parents, and children working together with the same goals and ideals that Cornerstone is such an effective program. "Through our dedication," she says, "we in the Cornerstone community, with the grace of God, can change the world".



## Student Art Gallery



Paper Piecing

~ **Shelbie McSpadden**

5th Grade - Nevada Campus



Watercolor Flowers

~ **Justin Johnson**

4th Grade - Nevada Campus



Chalk Drawing

~ **Ashley Bentley**

5th Grade - Nevada Campus

## Spending Time With Cornerstone - Summer Events

Summertime at most schools means quiet hallways and dark offices. But, not at Cornerstone! In addition to our longer-than-average school year (the students' last day was July 10<sup>th</sup>), the administrative staff works throughout the summer. The Institutional Advancement Department spends the summer much like the rest of the year on fundraising and marketing initiatives. Many partners and friends have joined us in hosting fundraising and other events this summer. And, with the Be A Tiger For Kids event on the horizon, there is still much to do. Here are some highlights from a few of this summer's events.

### 8th Grade Graduation Luncheon



Nick Stasevich, Barbara Stewart, Karen Sosnick-Schoenberg, Tia James, Dana Locniskar (event host), Aliyah Winston, Richard Brodie (event host), and Jaylin Noble at the 8th Grade Luncheon

The 8th Grade Graduation Luncheon, held on June 1st, is now a seven-year Cornerstone tradition for Cornerstone students. Facilitated each year by Cornerstone partner and Senior Vice President of Merrill Lynch, Dana Locniskar, this event was developed to help the students celebrate their graduation, and also inspire them to go on to do great things with their lives.

The graduating class dines with their guests - some with partners who have sponsored them for years, others with new friends to Cornerstone. The students hear advice and words of wisdom from their partners about the future; and the partners see the results of their investment.

This year the event was co-hosted by Cornerstone partners Dana Locniskar and Richard Brodie, the owner of Wico Metal Products. After being greeted by Mr. Locniskar, guests and graduates listened to remarks from students Terrance Morris and Tiffany Hudson, who thanked Mr. Locniskar and Mr. Brodie for their generosity, and offered a special thank-you to guest Jack Krasula, CEO of Trustinus. This class has a special relationship with Mr. Krasula. Ten years ago, while the students were in Pre-Kindergarten, he pledged his support to the class of 2009. He and his employees have faithfully partnered with these students, and have built relationships that are very special.

Guests then heard from keynote speaker Dr. Benn Gilmore, a University of Michigan undergraduate and Medical School graduate. Then, Tony Earley, CEO of DTE Energy, and his wife, Sarah, spoke about their longtime relationships with their partners, DeAngela Jones, Jeturi Brown, and Terrance Morris.

Perhaps the most touching comment was from emcee Tiffany Hudson. As she thanked everyone for coming, she said she hoped to be sitting once again at an 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation luncheon...as a partner to a future 8th grader. The circle continues.

### June 22nd Dinner At Comerica Park

On June 22<sup>nd</sup> Comerica Park was buzzing with the happy chatter of families enjoying a pleasant summer evening at the ballpark. After eating hot dogs and riding the Ferris Wheel, the crowd headed down to their seats, not to watch a game but to show their support of Cornerstone Schools. More than 900 people attended to pledge their help in recruiting others to join our Cornerstone community.

The crowd watched the innovative new "I am Cornerstone" video on the big screen, and was then greeted by hosts Dave Dombrowski, President, CEO and General Manager of the Detroit tigers, and Clark Durant CEO of Cornerstone schools. Dave and his wife, Karie, announced that they were becoming personal partners to a Cornerstone student. Both expressed again how important Cornerstone is to the city of Detroit, now more than ever in these tough economic times.

Clark Durant then shared the goal: to "pack the park" with more than 9,000 people at the 4th annual Be A Tiger For Kids

(Continued on Page 4)



Karie & Dave Dombrowski, Clark & Susan Durant and Tigers mascot, Paws, invite the crowd to support Cornerstone's 4th Annual Be A Tiger For Kids event

## June 22nd Dinner At Comerica Park (Continued)



The Price Family enjoying the June 22nd dinner at Comerica Park.

For more photos from this event, click here or visit:

<http://cornerstone.zenfolio.com>

The password is: June2009

(Continued from Page 3)

in support of Cornerstone Schools. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Supporters will gather for a private tailgate party before the game and be able to meet some former Tigers players: Gates Brown, Willie Horton, Dan Petry, Dave Rozema and Dave Bergman.

Just before the crowd was dismissed to run the bases, play catch in the outfield, tour the visitors clubhouse and have photos taken with Paws, captains for nine teams, whose goal is to recruit others to attend the game on August 18th, were introduced to the crowd. The captains are: Jim Boyes & Shannon Richey, Larry Denton & Larry Leib, Gina Gamble & Travis Millward, Laura Kegley & Lisa Bower, Shane Rodgers & Rose Taub, Dave Eberly & Jeff Petherick, Brenna Mansfield, and Karl Zimmerman & Tim Bearden. Their enthusiasm and hard work will go a long way toward bringing 9,000 people to the game. If you are interested in more information about how you can meet the Tigers alumni and to sign up for a team to help us meet our goal, please visit:

[CornerstoneSchools.org](http://CornerstoneSchools.org)

## 3rd Annual Vinnie Johnson Golf Invitational

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Vinnie Johnson Golf Invitational in support of Cornerstone schools took place July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Tam O'Shanter Country Club. Twenty-five foursomes participated under sunny skies, including Cornerstone CEO Clark Durant, who represented Cornerstone Schools on and off the course. Cornerstone student ambassadors, Kyle Martin, Haley and Harvey Caddell, Micah Thacker, and Winter Brooks, sang the National Anthem before the shotgun start and greeted golfers throughout the day on the course.

Post-golf festivities included a strolling dinner, a putting contest, a live and silent auction. Cornerstone alumnus, Matthew Mebane shared how his experience at Cornerstone changed his life. Prizes were awarded for the longest drive and closest to the pin, although the

most coveted prize, the 2010 Ford Taurus to be awarded for a hole-in-one, went unclaimed.

The Vinnie Johnson Golf Invitational was a wonderful day for Cornerstone, raising over fifty thousand dollars for tuition scholarships and strengthening the bonds of friendship within the Cornerstone community.



Cornerstone student ambassadors Haley Caddell, Winter Brooks, Harvey Caddell and Kyle Martin with golf host Vinnie Johnson.

### My Love For You

My love for you is strong like a gold medal worn around a winner's neck.

My love for you is soft like a plush teddy bear.

My love for you is sweet like yummy candy.

My love for you is like a hot summer day in a nice cold pool.

My love for you is all of these things.

How is your love for me?

~ **Cydney Gardner-Brown**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Grove Campus



## Building Hope For The Future - Natasha McCastle



Cornerstone alumnus Natasha McCastle is filled with high expectations and hope for her future. An honors graduate of Martin Luther King, Jr. High School in June, Natasha has accumulated just enough in scholarships and aid to be able to attend her first choice

university, Michigan State. But, hope was not always at the forefront of Natasha's outlook.

"Looking back, I can see where God has protected and blessed me," says McCastle. "First of all, He led my family and me to Cornerstone." While tuition was a struggle for her single-parent family, the help and support of family friends kept her and her two siblings at Cornerstone. "Cornerstone provides a family atmosphere for me. I can always go there and know that I have a place." In fact, Natasha has volunteered at Partner Mornings and is active in the Cornerstone Alumni Association.

But, at the end of her 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, Nata-

sha experienced losing her family home for the first time. "I went into a state of shock and anxiety of my family's financial situation. I began to stress over the lack of income and other things that I couldn't control"

In 10th grade, Natasha's family had to move three times. It got so bad that Natasha began to feel hopeless and unanchored. "We moved so many times, but none of the houses felt like a home."

Her affiliation with a group that she encountered through Cornerstone, YouthWorks – Detroit, helped to change that. Through YouthWorks and Gospel Lords, Natasha was able to attend the Youth Equipped to Stand (YES!) retreat. There, "I was able to interact with youth who had a personal relationship with God. They had a real home! A place that didn't charge rent, would not evict you, and would always be there. I was able to accept the gift of the Holy Spirit in my life, and to leave my anxieties with God. I have made my home in Him, and He is my stable shelter."

Through some basic accounting courses, Natasha discovered a love for numbers. She is a certified tax preparer, and volunteers her time helping disadvantaged people prepare their taxes. "It helps me to spread the love of God...preparing taxes is not usually what people think about when doing community outreach. But, filing taxes is an important part of being a fully-engaged citizen."

At Cornerstone, Natasha joined the Art of Leadership. Through that affiliation, she recently addressed the Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing. She stressed the importance of housing for those who work, but still cannot afford decent housing. She will major in Finance at Michigan State. Her goal is to return to Detroit, and one day start a foundation that will teach young people about money management and financial planning. "I have big dreams," says McCastle, "and I know that they will come true."

## Giving Through An In-Kind Donation

Giving comes in different forms. In our annual report published earlier this year, we recognized those who give so generously of their treasure. We now want to thank those who give so generously and selflessly to Cornerstone through a donation of goods, commodities and services. We are so fortunate to have received advertising, direct mail, printing, landscaping, promotional products, accounting services, training and other items and services as an in-kind donation this year. We are grateful for each and every gift.

Rami Abousaleh	Brenca Contractors, Inc.	Commercial Contractors Supply	EWI Worldwide
Adrian Steel	Richard A. Brodie	Community Alliance Credit Union	Robert Farmery
AFGE 7th District	Jason Brown	Compass Group Ltd.	Fifth Third Bank - Eastern Michigan
Alicia Alonzo	Larry Brown	Compuware Corporation	Eileen Fitzgerald
Ambrose Printing	Dennis Brozes	John & Stacy Corrado	James Fitzgerald
American Axle & Manufacturing	bsp Law Offices	Corp! Magazine	Flagstar Bank
Ashley Capital	Nicole Cairns	Eric Curtiss	Flat Rock Metal, Inc.
Avanzado	Carboline	Mark J. Dardzinski	FSN Detroit
Bank Of America Charitable Foundation	Certified Public Accountants	Karen Davidson	Gage Rite Products, Inc.
Bassel Banny	Chardam Gear Company	Sebastin de Coster	Maureen Gallagher
Bayloff Stamped Products	Charter One Bank	Ellen DeMaris	Garan Lucow Miller, P.C.
Belmont Equipment & Technologies	Chrysler Jeep of Ann Arbor	Design Systems	General Dynamics Land Systems, Inc.
The Berline Group	Chris Clark	Detroit Tigers	General Motors Foundation
Berry, Johnston, Szykiel & Hunt	ClubCorp USA, Inc.	Vincent & Frances Dow	Gharari, Inc.
Blue Care Network	Coffee Express	DTE Energy Company	Michael Gilbert
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Collins	Dr. & Mrs. John Dunn	Scott Gordon
Greg Boll	Jim Comer	Envenius Innovative Solutions	Gordon Food Service
Bowne, Inc.	Comerica Bank	Michael Ericson	Great Lakes Mechanical

(continued on Page 6)

## Giving Through An In-Kind Donation (continued)

---

Matthew Grimes	Lear Corporation	Shawn Paszkiewicz	Michael Stetts
HDC Partners, L.L.C.	Dean Liakakos	Ed J. Peper	Takata, Inc.
Heidtman Steel Products	Dana M. Locniskar	Penrod Ricard	The Taubman Company
Henkel Corporation	Mr. & Mrs. Lombard	Mark Petroff	The Technicom Group
Brian Hermelin	Mark Tool & Die Co. Inc.	Powers, Chapman, DeAgostino, Meyers & Milla	Bryan Thibodeau
Michael Hoelzle	John Marx	PriceWaterhouseCoopers, LLC	Shirley Tighe
Alphons & Susanne Iacobelli	Masco Corporation	Bruce Roberts	Typuski Landscaping & Lawn Service
iContrive	Alonzo L. McDonald	Marjorie Rose	Delano & Marlene Valenti
Imperial Marketing	MCM Management Corp.	Royal Banana Company, Inc.	Mr. & Mrs. James Vandenberghe
Inerney Cadillac-Toyota, Inc.	Merrill Lynch - Detroit	Safiedine Oil Company	Gerald Varick
J. Lewis Cooper Co.	Peter Mertz	Jay Slavsky	WDIV TV4
Donna Jackson	Gail Monikean	Don Slominski	Weight Watchers
Bill Johnson	Michael & Kelly Moorman	Paul W. Smith	Neil Weissman
Tom Keramaris	National City Bank	Douglas M. Snow	Weltman, Weinbert & Reis Co., L.P.A.
Maria S. Kikas	NGS American, Inc.	Mark Soczek	WJR Radio
John Kunz	David & Patricia O'Donnell	Karen Sosnick-Schoenberg	Jack Withrow
Lacey & Jones	Ogilvy Team Detroit	St. Mary's Cement, Inc.	Woods Construction Inc.
Gary Ladowski	Park Metallurgical Corporation	St. Stephen Catholic Church	Abigail Wright
Lafarge North America	Park West Gallery	Starbucks	Yazaki North America, Inc.
			Brett Zmijewski

On behalf of the children, faculty and staff, we sincerely thank you for your friendship, kindness and generosity this past school year. Because of you, we can continue with our vision to transform lives, for good; and create a new city for all.

---

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*

- Margaret Mead



---

### Our Mission

Our broad and beloved community of friends will make possible an excellent education for children so as to prepare them for life and leadership. On this journey we will seek to follow Jesus as a sure path to a fulfilling life and servant leadership.



### Comments or questions about the newsletter? Please contact:

Janice Perzigian, Director of Marketing, Events & PR  
313-892-1860 ext. 287  
Janice.Perzigian@CornerstoneSchools.org

For all other questions, please call our Institutional Advancement office at:  
313-892-1860 ext. 212 or visit our website:

**CornerstoneSchools.org**