

WILL Power of the Purse Kick-Off Starts 2007 Campaign Off Right!



The audience at the 2007 WILL Kickoff listens attentively to Dr. Roberta Golinkoff talk about early learning.

Over two hundred women gathered together on October 4th at the Downtown Public Library to kick-off Women in Local Leadership's (WILL) 2007 campaign with its Power of the Purse dinner. Members and guests enjoyed a cocktail reception and silent auction with music by Jose Lebron and the LeMonde Quintet. Connie Hodges, President of United Way of Northeast Florida, welcomed everyone and recognized State Farm Insurance Companies, 2007 WILL corporate partner, for their dedication to our community and United Way.

Highlights of the evening included a delicious dinner prepared by Ashley Street Catering and a performance by comedienne Amy Beckham. WILL's very own Vickie Cavey added her own "comedic flair" to the event as she took on the role of auctioneer during the live auction.

Dr. Roberta Golinkoff, H. Rodney Sharp Chair in the School of Education at the University of Delaware and co-author of Einstein Never Used Flashcards, was the special guest speaker for the event. The work of United Way's Success By 6 and Born Learning echoes the results of her research as to how



Ladies from Shands Jacksonville enjoy the WILL event



Kraytina Lawrence and Toni Crawford



Women from Baptist Health during the event

children really learn, and the importance of play in the educational development of our youngest citizens. Dr. Golinkoff's presentation was made possible through a partnership with Nemours BrightStart! Dyslexia Initiative.



Dr. Roberta Golinkoff signing books after the event



Vickie Cavey acts as auctioneer

A Special Thank you to the Sponsors of WILL Power of the Purse Event

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CSX Women Gather Together for Special Luncheon

The children from Community Connections opened a special luncheon for the women of CSX on September 5th with a few educational songs. Hosted by WILL member Carolyn Sizemore, guests learned more about United Way's Women in Local Leadership (WILL) and its support of Success By 6 and Born Learning.

Special guests and founding members Marty Lanahan, North Florida Area Executive for Regions Bank, and Vickie Cavey, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Acquisitions for JEA, shared their passion for United Way and WILL. Susan Wit of CSX Intermodal closed the program by encouraging her fellow company leaders to take advantage of the many opportunities WILL provides



Children from Community Connections' daycare center performed at the CSX event.



Ladies from CSX at the September 5th luncheon

Fourth Annual Martinis and More

Tocqueville members Marty Lanahan, Michael Munz, and their host committee held the fourth annual Martinis and More reception at Marty's San Marco home.

Michael Ward, President and CEO of CSX Transportation and 2007 United Way Tocqueville Chair, expressed his appreciation to those key stake holders who deeply understand the impact United Way makes throughout Northeast Florida. He reminded everyone why it is important to support United Way and challenged them by saying "If you find yourself in a more fortunate situation than a year ago, please consider giving United Way an increase."

Tocqueville Society Reception

It was a beautiful fall evening when Bobby and Polly Stein welcomed Tocqueville members and guests into their home. Everyone enjoyed being together while viewing a magnificent sunset over the St. Johns River.

New Tocqueville members, Lee and Dorothy Thomas, co-hosted this reception with the Steins. The Thomases have recently moved here from Atlanta where they were very active with United Way and understand the critical role it plays in every community.

Ed Pratt-Dannals, newly appointed Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools, recognized and applauded the strong partnership between United Way and

Marty echoed Michael's comments and encouraged the many guests to join this city's most philanthropic group by becoming a member of the Tocqueville Society.

Ron Autrey, 2007 Campaign Chair, updated the group on the progress of the campaign, emphasizing the fact that the Tocqueville Society makes up \$4.6 million of the total dollars raised. Guests also enjoyed great company, poolside conversations and beautiful artwork that showcase Marty's home. This annual event is growing in popularity among members and everyone is looking forward to see who and what next year brings.

the school system. He stated, "With the ongoing collaborations like Full Service Schools and the new initiative Achievers for Life, we will reduce the drop out rate and improve living conditions for this community."

Michael Ward, Tocqueville Chair, concluded the evening with words of appreciation and encouraged members to tell others about the impact the Society makes through United Way. He reminded members and guests that "we all should feel encouraged that with United Way and its partners, we will have the appropriate resources and programs for our community's most vulnerable citizens."



Sam Perone, Russ Jones, Charlie Hughes, and Charlie Towers



Mike and Karen Blount and Ed Pratt-Dannals



Ron Autrey pays tribute to Michael Ward at the Martinis and More event held in the home of Marty Lanahan.



Nadine Gramling, Russ Jones, John Cowling, and Michael Ward



Ali Korman and Andy Wheeler



Drew Prusiecki and Kim Wheeler



Pete and Katy Kirill and Polly Stein



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Ed Pratt-Dannals and Gaspar Lazzara



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