July 26, 2010

Michael B. Coleman
Mayor, City of Columbus

Since taking office in 2000, Mayor Michael B. Coleman’s core focus has been building stronger, safer neighborhoods and creating jobs by continuing to improve Columbus’ high quality of life. Coleman was first elected in 1999, re-elected in 2003 and won a third term in November 2007. He has leveraged incentives to create and retain more than 65,000 jobs and bring more than $4.5 billion in private investment to Columbus throughout his tenure. Growing companies enjoy an educated workforce from 18 regional colleges and universities.

Mayor Coleman initiated Neighborhood Pride, a proactive effort to engage residents and businesses to fix up thousands of homes and clean up their neighborhoods. He adopted a “Pay-As-We-Grow” annexation policy requiring developers to bear the costs of extending water, sewer and electricity. Under the mayor’s leadership, Columbus has reinvested in older Columbus neighborhoods such as Franklinton, the King Lincoln District, South of Livingston, Northland, Olde North Columbus and South Linden. The city is also embarking on revitalization strategies for the Near South Side, the Far South Side, and the West Broad Street Corridor.

In 2006, the mayor created the Home Again program and set aside $25 million to acquire, rehab and tear down vacant and abandoned houses in Columbus neighborhoods. To date, more than 600 homes have been impacted. In 2007, Mayor Coleman created the Affordable Housing Trust Corporation to provide more housing options to inner-city residents. He has increased the development of new homes for families, spurring construction through city incentives of more than 12,500 new housing units. In addition, Mayor Coleman led the restoration of the historic Lincoln Theatre, the linchpin of the King Lincoln District, which has been revitalized after decades of neglect and blight. The area is rebounding with seven major commercial and residential projects totaling $30 million in new private investments.

Mayor Coleman worked with business leaders to start a massive Downtown revitalization initiative. Since 2002 more than 5,000 new apartments and condos have been built or are under development, a new Downtown park system is being designed,

Thank you Kathleen Roberts and Richard Lum for greeting us today.
Thank you Kathleen Roberts for providing today’s invocation.
**Today’s Menu:**  House Salad, Roast Turkey Breast

Noon to 1 p.m. luncheon meeting at The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

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**President’s Corner**

We often hear of public/private partnerships. In fact, in last week’s Sunday Dispatch, John Christie, President of the Franklin County Convention Facilities Authority, was speaking about such a partnership regarding the new hotel that is being built across from the Convention Center. At the Innovation Summit in May, Gordon Gee changed the “publish or perish” theme of old to a new “partnership or perish,” as he spoke about how to move innovation and creativity to the forefront of the University.

Kiwanis is in the same mode. We can do so much more if we partner with others. That could be other community organizations, other Kiwanis Clubs in our own division and district, and even with the Athletic Club of Columbus where we have our weekly meetings.

As relates to partnering with other Kiwanis Clubs, we received a call from the Hilltop Kiwanis asking us to partner with them in their “stuff the bus” initiative to provide backpacks and school supplies to underprivileged children who wouldn’t have them without this project. We are working with the details of how we can partner with Hilltop and provide 1,000 backpacks through their “stuff the bus” project along with other Kiwanis Clubs. Together we can do more than we can separately.

As relates to partnering with the Athletic Club, we have been asked to partner with them to support their annual blood drive. More details will be forthcoming in a future newsletter. Blood is in short supply during the summer months, so we are asking our members to come early or stay late on August 30 and give blood. The Athletic Club will do all the set-up and arrangements: they just ask us to do our part by donating. Do consider this on August 30.

So, partnering can leverage all that we do to help more kids and more people. That is our mission and that is our accomplishment.

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**Calendar of Events**

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<td>8/13-15</td>
<td>Ohio District Convention - Cincinnati</td>
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**Guest reservations requested …**

Due to the popularity of this week’s speaker and the fact that we are promoting “Bring a Guest Day,” we are anticipating a large crowd and do not want to run short of meals. Therefore, please let us know in advance (by Friday, July 23) if you will be bringing a guest.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us manage our weekly luncheon needs with the Athletic Club of Columbus.

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3,000 jobs have been moved into Downtown and there has been more than $2.18 billion in new investment. In addition, the long-vacant former City Center mall site is being developed into Columbus Commons, a central park space with opportunities for business, residential and retail development.

Mayor Coleman has a proven record of balancing budgets and reforming government. Columbus is the only large city in the nation to maintain an Aaa Bond rating from all three major rating agencies. Since 2009, Mayor Coleman has taken steps that will save more than $100 million over the next decade by getting employee benefits in line with the market while reducing unnecessary overtime, increasing the use of technology and making the city more energy-efficient. Mayor Coleman, City Council and Auditor Hugh Dorrian have committed to additional savings through their 10-Year Reform Plan.

Mayor Coleman was born November 18, 1954. He has three children: Kimberly, a private banker in Chicago; Justin, a Columbus police officer; and John-David, a student at Ohio State University. Prior to becoming mayor, Coleman served as President of Columbus City Council from January of 1997 to November of 1999, and as a council member from February of 1992 to December of 1999. Coleman graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1977 with a degree in Political Science and earned his law degree from the University of Dayton Law School in 1980.

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**Membership …**

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. We exist for our members to network, serve, learn and grow. Our efforts in the community are the results of members giving of themselves and receiving from others. Why not share the Kiwanis experience with a friend? Please bring a guest to lunch, today!
The Eliminate Project launched …

At this past Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas, plans were announced to launch a new world-wide service project called “The Eliminate Project.” The goal of the project is to save the lives of babies and their mothers by eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus (MNT), a disease that kills an estimated 60,000 newborns and 30,000 mothers each year.

MNT is easily prevented by a series of three vaccinations to women of childbearing age, costing roughly $1.80. The Eliminate Project will raise $110 million over the next five years, to fill the funding gap required to provide an estimated 387 million doses of the vaccine. The Eliminate Project will deliver life-saving vaccines to the most vulnerable women and children in the world: those in remote and difficult to reach areas; in conflict zones; and those with little access to healthcare.

Kiwanis International is again joining forces with UNICEF to coordinate the overall effort. Partnering with UNICEF, Kiwanis successfully completed its first global campaign for children to virtually eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD), the leading cause of preventable mental impairment. Kiwanis raised and leveraged more than $100 million, which helped change lives in 103 nations. The number of households estimated to be consuming iodized salt has jumped from less than 20 percent in 1990 to more than 70 percent, and the effort has been heralded as one of the most successful health initiatives in the world.

There is every expectation that this new initiative will be as successful as the IDD initiative. Additional details regarding individual member and Club involvement are currently being developed.

I went to the bookstore and asked the salesperson, “Where’s the self-help section?” She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

Golf truisms …

Don't buy a putter until you've had a chance to throw it.

Never try to keep more than 300 separate thoughts in your mind during your swing.

When your shot has to carry over a water hazard, you can either hit one more club or two more balls.

If you're afraid a full shot might reach the green while the foursome ahead of you is still putting out, you have two options: you can immediately shank a lay-up or you can wait until the green is clear and top a ball halfway there.

Urban League program big success …

With the aid of a $1,500 grant from our Columbus Kiwanis Foundation, the Columbus Urban League provided 47 youth (ages 11-18) with an after-school tobacco education and prevention program.

The day began at 11 a.m. with Afro-rhythms, led by Pat Funderburg from the Central Ohio Diabetes Association. The next speaker was Andre Lampkins, from State Treasurer Kevin Boyce’s office. He gave a great hour-and-a-half presentation on financial health. Mr. Devin Shaw then spoke about making healthy decisions and self-esteem. The afternoon concluded with a pizza buffet and recreational time in the pool area.

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman stopped by for a visit as well.
Who was Hayim Solomon?

On the back side of the one dollar bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a seal. It took them four years to accomplish that task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a pyramid. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decide what could be made of that vast area. The pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone, you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. 'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means 'God has favored our undertaking.' The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776 (MDCCCLXXVI).

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every national cemetery in the United States, including the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbol means.

The bald eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. In the eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM,' meaning 'one from many.'

Above the eagle, you have the 13 stars, representing the 13 original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. We were coming together as one. Notice what the eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this: 13 original colonies; 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence; 13 stripes on our flag; 13 steps on the Pyramid; 13 letters in, 'Annuit Coeptis;' 13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum;' 13 stars above the Eagle; 13 bars on that shield; 13 leaves on the olive branch; 13 fruits, and if you look closely; 13 arrows.

And finally, if you notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle you will see that they are arranged as a Star of David. This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Hayim Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army, Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself but that he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result. Few people know that it was Solomon who saved the Army through his financial contributions. Mr. Solomon died a pauper.

Why don't most Americans know this? Your children probably don't know this and their history teachers don't know this, so they can't teach it. Too many veterans have given up too much to ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all!

We should share this article with everyone, so they can learn the significance behind our one dollar bill.