

Tots and Teens Chronicles



Frankie Glover Marries Michael Thompson

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Calendar of Events

May 23rd – Etiquette Workshop

June 26/27th – Bowie Baysox

July 25th – Hershey Park



Ummm.... When I think about the marriage union God has established between Michael and I, we are so

Blessed. All things in life happen for a reason, and our story is living proof of that. Michael's brother, Kyle, and I met in the 9th grade at Suitland High School. We stayed friends all through high school. However, throughout high school his brother changed schools often but we stayed in touch.

During this time, Michael wasn't interested in dating me at all since we had a age gap between us. I was the underage at the time and he never expressed any interest or indicated that he may like me in any way.

Ironically, Michael also graduated from Suitland and was a star football player during his tenure there.

During my senior year Kyle and I lost touch with one another. Amazingly, we found one another again right before I left for college in California.

Like a typical guy, Michael then expressed his feeling for me after I was already on the other side of the nation. We started conversing on a consistent basis and he too became a best friend. Once I returned home for Winter break in December 2008, we began dating. It was December 12th. Since I was still young, of course, I preferred to take things slow.

During this time he consistently told me I was going to be his wife. Of course, all I could do was laugh--marriage was the farthest thing from my mind. But because he was persistent, we were married on March 13, 2010. In this case, persistence paid off.

We are truly alike in many ways--in thoughts, parenting and in understanding what we expect from one another as well as how we hope to grow in our relationship. I've come to realize that the reason for us being almost identical in spirit is because I feel that I was created for Michael and he for me.

This is only the first chapter of an endless book that simply ends with they lived happily ever after. I strongly believe if we keep God first he will continue to bless our marriage. We have grown from two separate people into One unified spirit.

I am continuing to pursue my degree in Graphic Arts from the New York City College of Technology with an expected graduation date of May 2011. Michael is currently in basic training in Missouri with the U.S. Army. He plans to continue studies in the transportation field.

Jaelyn Moore



My Debut

It's official, I have followed in my mom's footsteps! I have cheered in my first Varsity

game at the age of 6. Along with four other students, I was chosen from the Junior Cheerleading Squad at Riverdale Baptist School to cheer at a boy's Varsity basketball game. Although I was a bit nervous, when it was show time, I did not disappoint. I did jumps, splits and cartwheels between cheers. The crowd roared, the cameras flashed, and the video cameras were rolling. I think I like this gig!

It may have only been one game, but I can now add this job to my list of things I want to be when I grow up. I have told my parents that I want to be a teacher, an actress, and a cheerleader when I grow up. So, keep your eyes and ears open because I may be teaching by the age of 10!

Varsity Cheerleader
at the age of 6

Teen Group Goes to Court

By Malik Moore

"It's easy to do the wrong thing, but much harder to do the right thing."

On February 27, 2010, several members of the Teen Group (John Boyd, Taj Estep, Malik Gerald, and Malik Moore) attended the 2010 Youth Law Fair, held at the H. Carl Moultrie Courthouse in Washington , DC. The focus of this year's Law Fair was "Teen Dating Violence". The youth learned quite a bit and the following is an article written by Malik Moore on lessons learned.

What I Learned at the Youth Law Fair 2010

Although I was a little hesitant about attending a Fair that would last a whole day, I have to say, I was impressed. The topic of discussion for the day was Teen Dating and all that comes with that. We were involved in conversations about texting or sexting, physical and mental abuse, and all of the legal issues that you could get into if you are not careful. They even went as far as to let us see the holding cells for inmates. That's a small space for five people and one toilet!

The mock trials were the best part of the day. The trial that I saw involved an athlete that was overprotective of his girlfriend. He was an athlete and while at a basketball game, he saw his girlfriend in the stands talking to some dudes. I guess he became jealous and approached her about being with these dudes. As she

began to walk away, the boyfriend smacked her on her rear end. Is this abuse or not? So the trial began. Witnesses were called, the lawyers questioned the victim, and the jury was left to deliberate. Oh, I forgot to say that all of the lawyers, witnesses, victim, jury, and the judge were being played by teens. They were getting advice from real lawyers during the entire trial, but the teens were doing all of the talking. The whole trial was both funny at times and very serious during other times.

The jury in my courtroom was a "hung jury". They could not determine if the defendant was innocent or guilty. In other courtrooms, they saw the same trial, the defendant was found guilty in some courtrooms and innocent in others. **Crazy, right?!**

There were several lessons I learned during the Fair and here they are: Jail is bad. It's not for me or anyone I know and I am sure I don't want to go there EVER.

1. Judges have a lot of work to do outside of the courtroom. It is a little harder than what you see on the Judge Mathis show!

2. I learned that it is difficult to tell when someone is telling the truth or not. In the courtroom, everyone sounded as if they were being truthful. Someone had to be lying!
3. I learned that I shouldn't hang around people that are doing the wrong things. I may be found guilty by association.
4. I learned that sending inappropriate pictures of yourself to anyone is against the law and you could be charged with sexual abuse.

Most importantly, I learned that it is easy to do the wrong thing, but much harder to do the right thing. I know, I know, I have heard all of this before and really none of these lessons are new. My parents, family, and maybe some of you have told me or another teen these very same things, but we have to get it in our own time. I'm here to tell all that are reading this, **MY TIME IS NOW!**

Youth Leadership Workshop

On April 10th, approximately 20 members and friends of T&T participated in the annual Youth Leadership Workshop. This program's facilitator was Rosalyn Coates and she was assisted by Kelli Petty and several Tots and Teens parents (Camille Gerald, Rhonda Boyd, Kelly Burroughs and Edith Henderson).

The Youth Leadership Workshop is an informal course in the art of oral communication. The workshop teaches podium etiquette, presentation skills, voice control and body language when speaking publicly before an audience. The goal is to try

to develop self confidence and to teach the children to clearly express their thoughts to others so that they are heard and understood.

The workshop helps youth to:

- Overcome the nervousness that everyone feels when asked to speak before an audience.
- Organize and present their ideas logically and convincingly.
- Listen to other's ideas.

The youth who participated in the workshop ranged in age from 7 to 14. It was

truly amazing to see the confidence of the children as they stepped before their audience to deliver the speeches that they had written themselves.



The Creed

There is a public charter school in inner city Chicago called the Urban Prep Academy. I believe there are others in various parts of the country, but the one that was the focus of a news story that was on CNN was in Chicago. All students are African Americans.

This year Urban Prep Academy will have its first

graduating class. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that all 107 graduating seniors have been accepted into 4-year colleges and universities. Also noteworthy is that when these students entered the school as freshmen, only 4 percent of them were reading on grade level.

I was so impressed with these students. They were absolutely confident

in their ability to make it in this world. The students have a wonderful creed which they recite each morning before classes begin for the day. The creed fosters self-esteem, high achievement, and accountability.

The Urban Prep Creed

We believe

We are the young men of Urban Prep.
We are college bound.
We are exceptional, not because we say it but because we work hard at it.
We will not falter in the face of any obstacle placed before us.
We are dedicated, committed and focused.
We never succumb to mediocrity, uncertainty or fear.
We never fail because we never give up.
We make no excuses.
We choose to live honestly, nonviolently and honorably.
We respect ourselves and, in doing so, respect all people.
We have a future for which we are accountable.
We have a responsibility to our families, community and world.
We are our brother's keepers.
We believe in ourselves.
We believe in each other.
We believe in Urban Prep.

WE BELIEVE

PHOTO GALLERY

P. G. County MD
Chapter
Tots and Teens



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.pgtotsandteens.com

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