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TRENDSETTERS TO TRENDSETTERS

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- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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From the Publisher



Willie Stewart
CEO/ Publisher

Hello America,

When I was growing up as a child, if someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, the answer was usually a doctor, lawyer, police officer, school teacher or a fireman; never would I say the President of the United States of America. It had never been done by a black man, so I didn't feel it was obtainable. Barack Hussein Obama has now raised the bar for generations of black men to come; he has become the first black man to have held a presidential ticket. Barack Obama has gone where no black man has gone before.

Trendsetters to Trendsetters Magazine doesn't play politics or religion. We spotlight individuals in the areas that are inspirational and do things that make a difference in communities around the country. Barack Obama has qualified as a trendsetter because he has raised the bar; the bar that now has no color barrier. Barack Obama needs to be acknowledged by media outlets all over the world for this great accomplishment.

When I attend my next career day and talk to young black males; I will ask them what they would like to be when they grow up. I hope to hear, at least, one of them say 'the President of the United States of America.'

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the newest members of our staff. Mrs. Nikki Antwine of Houston, TX in our Beauty and Fashion; Ms. Chiquandra C. Cross of Houston, TX in our Business Trends; Walter "Wallabe" Brewer as our Director of Arts and Entertainment; Connie Witter from Jamaica in our Global, E. Walter Smith from Atlanta-Cleveland, OH Columnist and Una M. Smith from Canton, OH on our Public Relations Team.

Walter "Wallabe" Brewer, the Director of Arts and Entertainment, is bringing lots of energy to the publication with his column called "In Da Paint." He will interview artists in the industry to talk about what goes on; it will be real talk from the industry. We would also like to acknowledge female producer, A.D with Rubanband Musik, for creating our Trendsetters to Trendsetters Anthem, written by "Wallabe" that you hear playing on our website.

Thanks for reading our phenomenal publication, and we will continue to touch lives and inspire our youths. Until next, time be blessed.

Willie Stewart



TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

E. Walter Smith - A Man for All Seasons

Having shared classrooms with the likes of **Gerald Levert, Jim Brickman, Kym Whitley, and Molly Shannon**, and being reminded by my parents (who, by the way, just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary) that I was a Smith with Stokes blood, growing up in Shaker Hts., Ohio exposed me to "the life styles and success models of the 'rich and famous,'" while reminding me at all times that the smarter I worked the luckier I would be.

To everyone's surprise, yet initially to my chagrin I discovered my honeyed baritone voice when I was 10 years old. Silenced by my music teacher because my "voice didn't blend with the other boys and girls" I honed my skills as a writer, was ranked by **Street and Smith Magazine** as one of America's best high school basketball players and kept my musical dreams alive by playing bass guitar in a rock and roll band named Attic.

When **Larry Graham** started singing *One In A Million* I found the courage to open my mouth again began blending a "Pop & Soul" singing career with local commercials and voice-over performances. Embracing the entrepreneurial spirit of my cousin Lamont and inspired by the harmonies of my parent's remixed mantra of "God bless the child that has his own," I've sought to find my place in the music industry. As the strategies for success in this market continue to evolve, finding my niche became my paramount concern.

Now at 45, I have targeted the bridal market as my niche of choice. Since I'm still "cool" enough to dance with **Chris Brown** and **Ne-Yo**, old enough to hang out with **Prince** and **Michael Jackson** and young enough to be called a "tenderonic" at an **AARP** convention, the music I sing and write is timeless. Love has been and will be around forever, and sooner or later somebody will need music for their wedding day. My song, *I Do* is endorsed by the **United States Pastor's Association** (*Ask any bride how hard it is to get a secular song approved by their pastor and you'll quickly see the value of this endorse-*

ment!) **Little Girl** is the first father daughter duet in recent time that features both the father and the daughter singing about their magical relationship and **Wedded - The Bride Slide** is a 'club banger' that is rockin' wedding receptions all around the world. "Love conquers all" and since every victory needs a soundtrack I wrote **Wedding Day!** (www.YourWeddingDayMusic.com)



Monique and E. pose at an event

October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. A few years ago I dated someone who was a survivor of an abusive relationship. In an attempt to bring awareness to the world about domestic violence and abuse I wrote and recorded, "**Tenderness**," a Pop/Inspirational love song that speaks to one's ability to accept love after surviving such an awful experience. **The Tenderness Campaign** includes the developing of **The Tenderness Tour** - a partnership with an eclectic group of artists from all musical genres as well as the "**Stop Domestic Violence, Download a Little Tenderness**" campaign that gives a portion of every download to organizations that support the victims of domestic violence and abuse. Many reports document statistics showing that 1 in 3 women are or will be victims of domestic violence and abuse. I developed the **The Tenderness Campaign** so that you can know the signs and make a difference "At Home. At Work. At Play. TO-DAY." (www.ALittleTenderness.com)

While being socially conscious and fiscally aware, I consult with recording artists, entrepreneurs and several corporations about the value of niche market-



E. Walter Smith
Atlanta

ing in the new age of the Recording and Entertainment business and stress how much "The Fortune is in the Follow-Up." As Chairman of the Advisory Board for **It's Cool To Be Smart**, a mentoring program for teen girls, I have helped to position this organization as one of the entertainment industry's most sought after community service partners. We've established national platforms with platinum recording artist **T.I.**, Grammy Award winning writer/producer **Sean Garrett** and teen sensation **Ke Ke Palmer**.

Having spent 20 years in the insurance and financial marketplace and being the Managing Director of **The EWS Financial Group**, I endeavor to share the importance of proper planning and leaving a legacy that is financially sound. As the face and voice of **The New Beginnings Network**, I provide access to many of the opportunities that come across my desk for those looking for a way to live a healthy lifestyle, build wealth, travel like a celebrity or serve their community. However, when all is said and done, it's the music that matters the most. *With a contemporary vision for a timeless covenant, I breathe new life into hope and "happily ever after."*

It's an honor to be a part of the Trendsetter to Trendsetter Family. I look forward to keeping you entertained and meeting you soon!

www.EWalterSmith.com

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JILLIAN "The Jaguar" BULLOCK

Award Winning Writer/Filmmaker, Fight Choreographer, Boxer, Wrestler, Martial Artist, Self-Defense Instructor, & Exercise Specialist

WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment). Afa is also the uncle of superstar wrestler and now actor The Rock. Jillian also holds a black belt in Tae Kwon Do & Wing Chun. Always looking for ways to improve upon her fighting skills, Jillian recently began training in Muay Thai and Jiu-jitsu (mixed martial arts, ultimate fighting).

While Jillian worked her way through La Salle University, she earned a living as a reporter for The Wall Street Journal newspaper. Upon graduating with a B.A. in Communications, Jillian segued into films. She worked as an intern on Spike Lee's film, "Malcolm X."

In 1995, Jillian formed Jaguar Productions, Inc., a film and sports entertainment company. Through her company, Jillian has produced a feature film entitled "Spirit," and documentaries.

She has also worked on film projects for other's as a screenwriter, director, producer, actress, fight choreographer, or script doctor. Each year Jillian is a screenwriting judge for Set In Philadelphia Screenplay Competition, sponsored by The Greater Philadelphia Film Office.

Jillian is the editor of "Sasha's Way," a novel available in bookstores. Her first book, entitled "Killing Of Innocence," will be published in 2008. The book tells of Jillian's upbringing as an African-American girl, who was raised by her white stepfather. How he, who was also a member of the Italian Mafia, influenced everything aspect of Jillian's life from criminal activity to relationships.

In September 2008, Jillian returns to college to pursue her Master's degree in Sports Medicine. □

Award Winning Writer/Filmmaker, Fight Choreographer, Boxer, Wrestler, Martial Artist, Self-Defense Instructor, & Exercise Specialist

Jillian "The Jaguar" Bullock has been called a modern day Superwoman, and that title becomes perfectly clear as one watches her train. It isn't unusual to find Jillian training for boxing, wrestling and martial arts up to four hours a day, five days a week. Jillian trained in wrestling at the Wild Samoan Wrestling School in Allentown, PA. The wrestling school is owned and operated by Afa Anoa'i, a former 3 time tag team champion in the



Ebony Fathers serves as the web based beacon for all men experiencing the wonderment of fatherhood. Ebony Fathers' unique community affords men and women an opportunity to experience the positive synergy associated with fatherhood and provides the long awaited voice for those who are so often falsely accused of not owning up to their responsibilities.

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COMING SOON

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Trisha Reid: Bowling her way to the top



Columbus, OH

Trisha began bowling at the age of 6, achieving many bowling honors as a junior bowler. One of her memorable moments as a junior bowler was bowling a 290 during an adult/youth -bowling tournament. She graduated from Walnut Ridge High School in 2003, with many academic honors including Salutatorian. She was offered and accepted a bowling scholarship to Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, FL. After two weeks, Trisha returned to Columbus due to personal family matters and enrolled at The Ohio State University where she graduated in June 2008, with a degree in Hospitality Management. She did not bowl collegially while attending The Ohio State University.

At the age of 18, Trisha began bowling in adult leagues where she posted a 200 average her first year. By the age of 22, through hard work and many practice hours fine-tuning her game, she had posted a 227 average the highest ever recorded by a lady bowler in Columbus, Ohio. She won the Atlanta Ladies Classic Bowling Tournament in 2006, after placing second in 2005. She was the first woman to win the Dayton Open where the field included several Men's PBA Members. She finished 16th in the

2007 Super Hoinke Classic in Cincinnati, Ohio.

This year she was named to the first Ohio USBC WBA All-Star Bowling Team. She was the first woman to ever make it to the top six in the 2008 #1 Cochran Open Tournament in Pittsburgh, PA. She finished tied for 33rd in her first two trips to the USBC Queens in 2007 and 2008, and capping off her young bowling career with a 2nd place finish in the 2008 US Women's Open

and 1st place finish in the 2008 Women's PBA Tour qualifying.

On day three of the 2008 US Women's Open, Trisha shot 1834 for eight games to lead the 186 women squad and on day four, she shot 1740 for eight games to place 2nd for the squad. The week of October 17, 2008 Trisha will be living her dream as she makes her debut in Omaha, NE as a professional bowler. □

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You Need Job Corps and Our Students, Your Children, Need You



Timothy Chambers
Illinois/Wisconsin

We are faced with an educational epidemic. We live in a nation in which half of the African American and Latino students are dropping out of high school. Nearly one third of high schools that have a student body of 50% minorities are graduating less than half of their class. More than half of the high schools in which minorities

make up the majority of students have dropout rates of 40% or higher. In stark contrast, the high schools that are 90 percent or more Caucasian, less than .05% have this kind of dropout record. In 1975 high school dropouts earned 90% as much as high school graduates. However in 1999 that amount had decreased to 70%, and is still falling.

Now while this data begs the question how, the more important issue here is how we do get out of this mess?

There is a biblical passage that reads "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee."

When I was a child I saw my mother attending P.T.A. meetings. She would laugh and talk with the teachers and in many cases, they were on a first name basis. In the evenings before I watched television, my dad would ask if my homework was done. When report cards



ourselves.

As the Project Director for all Outreach, Admissions and Career Transition Services for the Region 5 Office of Job Corps for the states of Illinois and Wisconsin, I constantly field phone calls from parents, grandparents, pastors, social workers, parole officers, and so on, wanting to know how to get their son or daughter into the Job Corps program. In most cases, the first question I ask is how old are they and the typical response is 16 years old. The next question I ask is, are they in school? In most cases the response is no.

Job Corps is the nation's oldest and largest vocational training and education program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 prepare for viable employment opportunities. Perhaps the best way to understand what Job Corps is, is to understand what Job Corps is not. Job Corps is not where high school drop outs go simply to finish school.

It is my belief that 16 YEAR OLDS BELONG IN HIGH SCHOOL. At Job Corps, students enroll to learn a trade, earn a high school diploma or GED and get help finding a good career. Job Corps is not where all the BAD kids go. Job Corps has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY against violence and drugs. Job Corps is not a behavioral adjustment program. Job Corps is a place where students with determination and drive will succeed. Job Corps is not free. In Job Corps students work and while enrolled in the program, students receive housing, meals, basic medical care and biweekly living allowances. Since Job Corps is a self-paced program, lengths of stay may vary. As a result, students may remain enrolled for up to two years.

When referring youth to Job Corps remember, Job Corps provides its students with the hands on training guidance and support they need to learn a trade and lead them to long-term employment and success. But in the end the student, your child, still needs you.

For Info Call: 1-800-733-JOBS

□

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

TAVIS SMILEY LAUNCHES TOUR TO TAP EMERGING LEADERS AT NATION'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

(BPRW) LOS ANGELES - (August 15, 2008) - Influenced by the teachings of W.E.B. DuBois, television and radio talk show host Tavis Smiley targets college students for the future of Black leadership and hopes to inspire new leaders from five of the nation's universities.

The Talented Tenth HBCU Tour, presented by the Navy, will kick off this fall with visits to Bethune Cookman University, Alabama A&M University, University of the District of Columbia, Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge and South Carolina State University. "I created this tour to enlighten, encourage, and empower students to think about what their own leadership legacy will be. That is what they can do today that will echo throughout their communities, careers, and ultimately throughout history," said Smiley.

"I'm convinced that the students who attend these institutions of higher learning are the scholars, the exceptional - the leaders of the future. They possess the courage and talent to set the standard for the next generation of leadership for our country."

At each of the campuses, Smiley will lead a two-hour interactive discussion on the characteristics of successful role models in the areas of business, public service, religion and academia. And, he will challenge the students to develop their leadership guiding principles. The title sponsor, the U.S. Navy, will host a special session to examine how leadership skills developed within its organization has helped many achieve a lifetime of success. The special session will be open to students on each campus.

"The U.S. Navy is honored to support Tavis Smiley's vision and the need to cultivate strong leaders within our community," said Captain Anthony P. Barnes, Director of Operations, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. "We are at a time in Black America in which those who have access to a college education are poised to surpass the accomplishments of their parents and grandparents. The questions I must pose to these talented students are: 'How will you lead, and how will you serve our community, our nation and the world?'"

Smiley's lecture also will address the existing issues and challenges of Black leadership, while emphasizing

examples of ethical, effective and transformational leadership for emerging leaders.

TAVIS SMILEY LAUNCHES TOUR

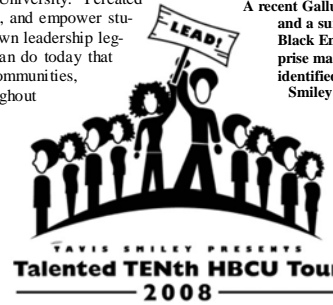
A recent Gallup Poll and a survey in Black Enterprise magazine identified Smiley the



"youngest Black leader" shaping the future of Black America.

The Talented Tenth HBCU Tour runs from September through November 2008.

Talented Tenth HBCU Tour Stops:
9/5/08: Daytona Beach, FL, Bethune-Cookman University, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
9/19/08: Normal, AL, Alabama A&M University, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
9/25/08: Washington, DC, University of the District of Columbia, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
10/24/08: Baton Rouge, LA, Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.



"The Talented Tenth... must be made leaders of thought and missionaries of culture among their people... Education must not simply teach work—it must teach life."
—W. E. B. Du Bois (1902)

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Solid Foundation, Inc. and Gems and Jewels Family Resource Center

A Collaboration Designed to Meet the Needs of Our Youth

One day in this now time, something very special is happening in the earth. Two professional and dedicated women with special dreams and desires for the betterment of children have come together. They are separate, yet their ultimate desire is the same—to change the world in which we live starting with our youth. Dr. Leslie Jackson and Ms. Kathie Wright are two women who have come together with a purpose.

Dr. Leslie Jackson, Founder and CEO of Solid Foundation a well-established organization that educates, exposes, and creates well-balanced children started the program in 2004 strictly as a home-school study program, but today the program primarily serves students who have various learning styles. The program is designed to meet the needs of each child based on their own ability and not grade level.

To that end, Ms. Kathie Wright, Executive Director of Gems and Jewels Family Resource Center opened her doors in the Family Life Center on the campus of Victory Baptist Church to be instrumental in decreasing the high crime rate in the Stone Mountain community by being a resource and providing a safe haven for all youth in need.

The common question asked is, "How did this collaboration effort come about?" Collaboration as defined by Webster means to work jointly together. There are four main ingredients involved in this collaboration, which include; hearing, seeing, observing and feeling. Of these four main ingredients, feelings are the most important in this particular collaboration. Feelings are the most important because Ms. Kathie recalls that although many other entrepreneurs approached her with the intent to share the load of



Dr. Leslie Jackson
Director



that it takes obedience to do God's will in order for this kind of collaborative vision to truly work. To whom much is given, much is required. Their programs offer both parents and children a golden opportunity of learning and growth all done with love and self-respect. The two dedicated programs blend as one, yet there are clearly two programs with one vision lead by women with sincerity and self-security.

In conclusion, as these visionaries work to plant seeds in our youth, they realize that it is God who sends the increase. They are looking for volunteers who also see the vision and

who are willing to plant seeds that will manifest greatly in our youth. They are also in need of donations that will help in providing academic scholarships for our youth. For more information about Gems and Jewels, please visit www.gemsjwls@yahoo.com. For more information about Solid Foundation, visit www.solidfoundationinc.org. They are waiting to hear from you. □

Both women recognize that it takes obedience to do God's will in order for this kind of collaborative vision to truly work.

The common question asked is, "How did this collaboration effort come about?"

the building, when she met Dr. Jackson to discuss the possibility of collaboration, she felt that Dr. Jackson was the one. Additionally, two different people that did not even know one another had already mentioned Dr. Jackson's name to Ms. Kathie. The two people knew of Ms. Kathie's need and the two people knew of Dr. Jackson's need. Dr. Jackson and Ms. Kathie both feel that those two people were divinely placed in their garden by God to be a catalyst in ensuring that the two ladies met.

Dr. Jackson's dream is fulfilled from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Ms. Wright's dream is fulfilled from 2:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. However, they share resources wherever and whenever possible. Gems and Jewels provides breakfast and lunch to Solid Foundation students, the programs share the library, they share the technology lab, classroom space, the gym, and the vans for transportation. They have committed to working together, for this season, to get the job done. Both women recognize



Together Building Strong Relationships

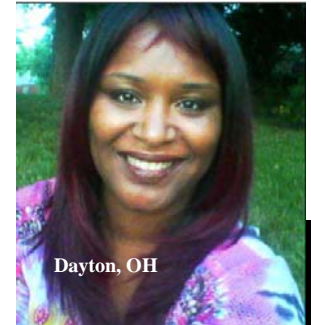
TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Give Him the Highest Praise

By Teri Miller Barker

A hhhh! I just want to scream! It seems like our society is slowly unraveling at the seams. And if you're not someone who is securely rooted in his or her faith, you'll find yourself buckling under the pressure of day-to-day life. We are definitely living in survival-of-the-fittest times. High food and gas prices, destructive storms and floods, salmonella- and E. coli-tainted produce, broken relationships, mental health illnesses, massive loss of homes and jobs, home invasions, pedophiles lurking in our neighborhoods and on the Internet preying on our children, and the list goes on. It's overwhelming at times, BUT the good news is, we can make it through any storm when we learn to let go and let God. In the midst of all the chaos and craziness, we have to condition ourselves to remain faithful and give Him the highest praise...Hallelujah anyhow. Because, regardless of how hopeless the situation looks or feels, God is in control. As much as we hate to admit it, there are just some things we cannot change or prevent. We can't rely solely

on our own strength to make it, because we'll quickly discover that our natural strength isn't sufficient. It's so difficult for some people to wrap their minds around such a simple concept of relinquishing the need to control a situation and accepting that the battle is not theirs. It's difficult to do sometimes, because we're used to handling our own business, but God is putting us in a position where we have to put into action the faith we say we have. Most of us are dealing with some situation or some circumstance that is helping us to realize that we can't control the weather. It rains on the just and the unjust alike. Gas is nearly \$4 a gallon. We can't change it or worry about it. Hallelujah anyhow. The economy continues to weaken and the value of our dollar is decreasing. There is nothing we can do to improve it. Hallelujah anyhow. Our property values are decreasing because of the foreclosed homes in our neighborhoods. It can become depressing if we let it, but Hallelujah anyhow. God will make a way. In my walk with Him, I have learned that worrying is pointless. In most cases, it



Dayton, OH

doesn't change anything. Also, in my walk with Him, I've learned that I have to pray about everything and keep a positive attitude.

It's so easy to profess that we have faith and believe in God when there are no obstacles or opposition in our lives, but when faced with adversity, we sometimes fail to put that faith in action because we allow ourselves to accept society's hopeless perspective on things. But, as Believers, we have to view the world through faith-colored lenses. Remember, the Bible tells us that 'faith without works is dead.' Faith without action behind it is just as good as having no faith at all.

When bills are mounting and you have to balance your checkbook in red ink, or when the gas prices have risen to the degree you have to ride a bike or rely on public transportation, hold on to your faith. Refuse to let the distractions in your peripheral vision interfere with your ability to focus on giving God the highest praise. Remain steadfast. Hallelujah anyhow.

Teri Miller Barker is a freelance writer from Dayton, Ohio. To view past columns, visit www.thewriteawaycafe.com. □

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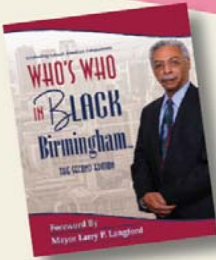
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Chef Julia May

HOSTED BY: HOT 107.7 FM

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Kim and Ken Adkins: *Connecting People and Changing Lives*

In today's society it is challenging for families to spend quality time together. Time is such a valuable commodity which manages to consistently elude us. Although we have been together for 26 years, married 22 years and blessed with three sons, Erick, Kenneth, and Steven, two beautiful grandchildren Aniya (pictured) and Erick Jr. (EJ). We asked each other where the time has gone. Go to work and come home. Get up and repeat the process day in, day out. Before you know it the children are grown and gone to repeat the same vicious cycle. We begin to imagine what it would be like to spend quality time together.

We believe we have discovered the solution of spending quality time together. Now don't get me wrong we have a strong relationship with the complications that come with marriage. You know 26 years has its challenges; it's great to have a strong foundation and able to endure. We thank God for being in the blessing business.

After working in corporate America for over 20 years, my company downsized. I believe that to be a blessing. I began doing Credit Education and Restoration Consulting. My husband J Ken Adkins works as a Supervisor for the United States Postal Service. We were introduced to direct marketing. I have a love

for computers and technology. My husband and I share a passion for helping others. So I while doing research on direct marketing.... I was introduced to a company that offered technology that we had never heard of before. VmDirect sparked a fire in us that is still burning.

We like to say we are in the business of Connecting People and Changing Lives. We created an online show called KimKen2Tv that features local talent in the Chicago area such as authors, motivational speakers, promoters, musicians, entrepreneurs', anyone that would like to share their dreams, gifts, products and services, using technology that was once only available to large television networks. Technology has given my husband and I the quality time that we missed early on... we are truly excited about how imagination makes

Chicago, IL



Kim and Ken Adkins pictured with their Granddaughter Aniya

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## Tuskegee Airman Lt. Col. Charles W. "A-Train" Dryden Has Taken His Final Flight 1920-2008



Atlanta, GA

ATLANTA (June 26, 2008). Lieutenant Colonel Charles W. Dryden (USAF-Retired) passed from this life on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 after a brief illness. He was approaching his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday this coming September; and Chuck and his bride of 32 years, Marymal Morgan Dryden, never stopped living life to its fullest.

Charles Walter Dryden was born on September 16, 1920, in New York City to Jamaican parents, Charles Levy Tucker Dryden and Violet Buckley Dryden. In his book, *A-Train: Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman*, Dryden recalls, "Air'pwane! Air'pwane!" is how this two-year-old, tearing paper into bits and throwing them into the air, told the world that he wanted to fly airplanes." And after many a trial and tribulation, flying airplanes is what Chuck Dryden did. He lived out his dream. And then he lived to write about it. After his book was published, he realized a renaissance in his career and enjoyed the celebrity which his stellar career afforded him.

Following graduation from Peter Stuyvesant High School in New York City Dryden earned a BA in Political Science from Hofstra University. He later earned an MA in Public Law and Government from Columbia University. However, one of the highlights of his career came in 1996 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by Hofstra University.

In August 1941 Dryden was selected for Aviation Cadet training at the Tuske-

gee Army Flying School in Alabama. He was commissioned on April 29, 1942 as a Second Lieutenant in a class of only three graduates, which was the second class of black pilots to graduate in the history of the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was a member of the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron, later the 332 Fighter Group, which served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy during World War II. On June 9, 1943, then Lieutenant Charles Dryden, in his P-40 nicknamed "A-Train," led a flight of six pilots engaging enemy fighter aircraft in aerial combat over

able Orders of the Daedalians, the Kentucky Colonels and the Palmetto Gentlemen of South Carolina. In 1997 Lt. Col. Dryden was also designated an "Outstanding Georgia Citizen" by the Secretary of State Max Cleland; and in 1998 he was inducted into the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame. President Bush conferred the Congressional Gold Medal on Lt. Col. Dryden and all Tuskegee Airmen at a ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda in March, 2007.

His autobiography has been published by the University of Alabama



Pantelleria, Sicily. It was the first time in aviation history that black American pilots of the U.S. Army Air Corps engaged aircraft in combat.

Colonel Dryden's 21-year military career also included combat missions in Korea and duty assignments in Japan, Germany and ten different bases in the United States. He also served as a Professor of Air Science at Howard University and retired in 1962 as a Command pilot with 4,000 hours flying time. A member of the board of directors of the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame, he is also a member of the Atlanta Metro Lions Club, Quality Living Services (a Senior Citizens organization) and the Atlanta Chapter-Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. (ACTAI), which he helped found in 1978 and which he served as president, vice president (twice), and national convention committee chairman in 1980 and 1995.

He has been inducted into the Honor-

Press in 1997 [*A-Train: Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman*].

He was an active member of the First Congregational Church; and until his waning health began to slow him down a little, he was often a speaker to youth and college students encouraging them to seek careers in military and civilian aviation.

Colonel Dryden has three sons by a former marriage - Charles Walter Dryden, Jr. of Maui, Hawaii; Keith Cameron Dryden of Orlando; and Eric B. Dryden of Atlanta. He helped his wife to guide and support the lives of her four children - George Bingham, Anthony Bingham, Kenneth Bingham and Cornelia-Rose White, all of Atlanta. They have five grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Pauline Miles from Denver, CO. and a host of relatives and friends.

## Stephanie Tubbs Jones September 10, 1949 - August 20, 2008

Stephanie Tubbs Jones, the first African-American woman elected to the House of Representatives from Ohio and a leader in the fight against predatory lending practices, died Wednesday. She was 58. The cause was a ruptured brain aneurysm that Ms. Tubbs Jones suffered Tuesday, Eileen Sheil, a spokeswoman for the Cleveland Clinic, which owns the Huron Hospital in East Cleveland where the congresswoman died, told The Associated Press.

Ms. Tubbs Jones, a Democrat, was in her fifth term as representative of the 11th Congressional District, which includes most of the east side of Cleveland. Two years ago, she was re-elected with 83 percent of the vote. Before her first election to Congress, in 1998, she had been the chief prosecutor for Cuyahoga County in Ohio.

Considered a liberal, Ms. Tubbs Jones was a co-sponsor of legislative efforts to broaden health care coverage for low- and middle-income people and of programs supporting the re-entry of convicts into their communities. She was also the author of legislation requiring

certification for mortgage brokers and stiffer penalties for predatory loans. In June, Ms. Tubbs Jones voted against emergency supplemental financing for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I feel it important that we have a plan for a timely redeployment of our troops from Iraq and Afghanistan before we continue funding what has become a seemingly endless war," she said at the time.

When Congress officially ratified President Bush's re-election in January 2005, Ms. Tubbs Jones joined Senator Barbara Boxer, Democrat of California, in initiating a rare challenge to what has historically been a polite formal ceremony. They were objecting to accepting Ohio's 20 electoral votes for Mr. Bush, citing voting irregularities in the state.

Instead of holding a courteous joint session to certify the election, lawmakers were forced to retreat to their separate chambers for two hours of debate. In the end, the House voted 267 to 31 against the challenge; in the Senate, the vote was 74 to 1.

Stephanie Tubbs was born in Cleveland on Sept. 10, 1949. She graduated



Cleveland, OH

from Case Western Reserve University in 1971 and received her law degree there three years later.

From 1976 to 1979, she was an assistant Cuyahoga County prosecutor. In 1981, she won election as a Cleveland Municipal Court judge, and 10 years later she was appointed chief prosecutor.

As chief prosecutor, Ms. Tubbs Jones was at the center of a controversy in 1998 when she refused to reopen an investigation into the 1954 murder of the wife of Dr. Sam Sheppard, dismissing new DNA evidence that Dr. Sheppard's supporters said would have exonerated him.

The case had received nationwide coverage in the 1950s. Dr. Sheppard spent 10 years in prison before the Supreme Court ruled that his trial had been prejudiced by publicity. He was acquitted at a second trial, in 1966, and died in 1970. With the new evidence, Dr. Sheppard's son was seeking to collect damages on behalf of his father. Ms. Tubbs Jones argued that the new DNA results would be inadmissible because the samples were too old.

Ms. Tubbs Jones's husband of 27 years, Mervyn L. Jones Sr., died in 2003. She is survived by her son, Mervyn II.

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Ms. Chiquandra C. Cross  
Houston, TX

**W**e all want to beat the hard times. Many of us are working hard and have little left over at the end of the month to show for it. We often sit around wondering what we can do to change our financial situation and end up with no ideas or too many ideas. The longer we think about it the more frustration, disappointment and maybe even depression sets in, it may seem like it's better to stay in bed and will it all away. But then reality sets in and you realize that you still have to pay the rent or mortgage, the utility bills and feed your children. Grudgingly you get up and prepare to go and fulfill the

## Prosperity is Possible, Even in This Economy!

dreams of the plantation owner you work for. What about your dreams? What gifts and talents do you have that you can successfully translate into profit? What are you passionate about?

On your drive to work you remind yourself of the many businesses you wanted to start. You know, the special events, catering or gift basket business. Oh yeah, what about the personal assistant and in home daycare? Wow, you forgot about wanting to start your own training company or accounting and bookkeeping services. If you are considering starting a business please do so cautiously and with much steadfastness; notice I did not say FEAR. You should never be afraid to be industrious and explore all options in order to improve your financial health.

Keep in mind that working for yourself is tougher than it looks. You may have to work harder than you've ever worked before. It may be challenging, but it will pay off in the end.

The first thing you should do is spend some time with yourself. Put your ideas on paper and do not limit yourself.

Before beginning your business it is critical that you spend a lot of time researching all of your potential options. Devote some time to connecting with successful business owners and

those who have failed previously. The more research you do on the front end will allow you to develop a more comprehensive game plan for starting your business.

The next step is to assess your life to determine how much free time can you devote to your business? How is your credit? Do you have a financial reserve that you can access to get your business off the ground? Or will you need to borrow start up capital? Do you want a partner or do you want to fly solo? Once you have counted all of the costs you will then need to decide what type of business you want to start. Do you want to provide a service or do you want to offer goods? Do you want to purchase a franchise or start a non profit agency? Starting a business is very risky, but if you do it right and count the costs in the developmental stage you will position yourself for greater success. Over the next couple of issues we will explore this topic in more detail.

For more info:  
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## Magnolia National Amaranth Court 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Royal Ball

**The Magnolia National Officers**

**T**he Annual Royal Ball is a charity ball that began in 2004 and with each year it has become very successful with providing funds for various charities.

The Royal Ball supports the ongoing services and programs that our children and communities need. Magnolia National Amaranth Court governed by Reformed Universal Masonic Brotherhood and Order of Eastern Star, Inc. Charity is a guiding principal of our Order. The Amaranth Court focuses mainly on children. The charitable work and overall benevolence that we can offer to young people by helping to shape their futures is our priority.

On Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> our organization will host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Royal Ball. This evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment will be held at Hilton Garden Inn/Millennium Center 2301 Sullivan Rd College Park, GA.

Our host for the evening will be V103's own Porsche Foxx.

To purchase tickets for the Annual Royal Ball contact Ms. Caldwell @ 678.793.9427. Donation for tickets is \$35.00. Ads maybe purchased, full page \$25.00 and half page \$15.00. Sponsorship packages are available. Individuals, businesses and companies can be sponsors. Deadline for ads is Sept 15<sup>th</sup> and deadline for tickets is September 26<sup>th</sup>. Donations for the silent auction are needed also. Ads can be emailed to [mybrotherskeeper1@msn.com](mailto:mybrotherskeeper1@msn.com) and monies are to be mailed to Magnolia National Amaranth Court 4435 Ravenwood Drive Union City, Ga 30291

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Wendy Clardy

COLUMBUS, OHIO

## F.A.V.O.F. Families and Victims Of Fraud

**W**endy W. Clardy brings noted recognition and numerous achievements as an educator and advocate to Central Ohio. After pressing through the hardships and struggles involved in defending her own home and family, she founded Wendy Clardy Ministries (WCM) in 1995. WCM is an outreach ministry that provides communities and families with both educational and advocacy resources. Her organization is one that can bring positive change to anyone who will welcome it into their lives.

Ms. Clardy continued to demonstrate her dedication to Central Ohio by investing her time into a wide assortment of public service organizations through 1997. She went on to receive the Ohio Family and Children First Parent Leadership Training Institute award in 1998. She served as a case manager for Franklin County Jobs and Family Services (FCJFS) in 2001 by providing eligibility and employment resources to families in need. She also invested her time and expertise into Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) where she worked as a mentor and liaison to families with special needs.

If you talk to Wendy Clardy, she will openly admit that while her personal experiences have left a permanent scar, she is not defeated. She gains strength from the trials she has overcome, and when she meets a hurting person, she listens to their needs and she takes action. When Wendy meets a person in need, she does what she can to provide the resources and education necessary to restore their confidence.

**We promote self-worth and courage because we know that these traits are needed in order to stand against oppression and destruction.**

Ms. Clardy is currently the editor of Ohio Homeowners News, and she's a leader at the America Homeowners Resource Center (AHRC). She is also a member of Homeowners for Barack Obama. She is in the process of completing her coursework at Columbus State Community College (CSCC) where she is the Vice President of the Student Advisory Board. Her concentrations are in the areas of Journalism and Mass Media. Upon graduation from CSCC, Ms. Clardy intends to continue her studies at a four year institution. She is an ordained pastor, a mother of three, and a friend to her community.

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*Coach Ken Woods of Coach Speaks continues to make a huge impact on the lives of those in the corporate boardroom and in the spotlight.*

**A**s competition and the rigorous demands in the business landscape continue to increase, the pressure to excel and stay on top becomes more profound. Technology has the world moving at the speed of now, and for even the most savvy and astute professionals, the pressure to succeed can be the very straw that breaks the camel's back. Coach Ken Woods of *Coach Speaks* is among the growing league of life coaches and motivators that have the skill, insight, life experience and patience to bring stressed out executives, professional athletes, and entertainers back to their happy places.

Coach Ken Woods, who has been on the playing field and in the corporate arena, has seen the pressures the elite experience on a daily basis. There is a constant, around the clock pressure to either reach the top or maintain the position. Professional athletes and entertainers leave their families and friends for extended periods of time. Everyone is constantly making demands on their lives and they can feel a loss of control. Coach Ken Woods provides these individuals with the tools to cope with these pressures, and the ability to recognize the symptoms and curtail the anxiety.

"Speaking with him always helps me reconfirm why I have invested my life in this line of work," says Scott Doll, Vice President Resource Development for the Southeast Region *Boys & Girls Club of America* National Headquarters.

Coach Woods often speaks on stress management and unique can-do methods to beat the stress accompanying success. Coach Woods is a frequent special invited guest speaker at events geared toward Executive-level professionals, as well as the youth, and is highly sought after for seminars and workshops around the country. He is the Life Coach and Corporate Chaplain to some of Atlanta's most successful training and sales companies, and counsels several highly regarded professional sports athletes and entertainment industry executives. To learn more about the Coach Speaks programs and services, please visit <http://www.coach-speaks.com>, e-mail [jc@prpowermoves.com](mailto:jc@prpowermoves.com), or call (678) 691-8323.

**About Coach Speaks:**  
Coach Speaks is dedicated to encouraging men, women and today's youth through coaching, seminars, counseling and through the written word. Coach Ken Woods emphasizes being a team player while motivating adults and teens toward success. Educational programs, books, workshops, and events are inte-



Atlanta, GA

gral components to the Coach Speaks mission, and through innovative new media platforms, community outreach and targeted publicity, Coach Speaks endeavors to empower people in both a professional and spiritual capacity.

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Judith Brooks  
Akron, OH

## New Manager of Talent Acquisition and Operations Joins Human Resources



Judith Brooks is the newest member of Human Resources. Brooks joined the division last month as the manager of talent acquisition and operations. In her new role, she will oversee the university's talent acquisition, employment and staffing processes.

Brooks comes to Kent State with a diverse background in talent acquisition (employment), diversity and training throughout Ohio. Most recently, she was deputy director of talent acquisition,

diversity and inclusion for the State of Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission. Prior to that, she was senior human resources specialist and the diversity officer for Aultman Health Foundation. In addition, she is currently an adjunct professor for Stark State College in North Canton, where she teaches courses in human resources.

Brooks has a bachelor's degree in management from Malone College and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Akron. Her office is located in the Terrace Hall Annex, and she can be reached at 330-672-2100 or [jbrook10@kent.edu](mailto:jbrook10@kent.edu).

- Spearheaded round table discussion in the importance of embracing diversity in corporate America and the academic world as a faculty member Stark State College

- Served as Facilitator & Moderator for: Focus Group Service-Learning Project at Kent State University Rebound Shots: Saving at Risk Students Takes a City

- Member of Cultural Competence Content Workgroup (CC CWG) - Charged with implementing the first State of Ohio Definition of Cultural Competence, Columbus, Ohio.
- Diversity & Inclusion Training Expert
- Teaches workshops on diversity and the importance of being culturally competent

- Licensed in Accident Life & Health

- Member of National Public Administrators
- Member of Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
- Member of United Baptist Church - Akron, OH

Judith Brooks BA, MPA.,  
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## EDC Contracting Consultants Will Build It *Your* Way

Eldredge Washington founder of EDC Contracting Consultants, Inc. plans and directs all aspects of EDC corporate policies, objectives, and initiatives. His portfolio of various construction projects in the commercial industry consists of condominium development, strip malls, restaurants, and a consultation of church building and construction. "I've learned through the years it's very important to listen to your client, and not be afraid to offer constructive criticism; the goal is that the outcome results in a successful project which brings satisfaction and prosperity to all."

Additionally, Washington has worked independently as a Business Consultant to numerous businesses in various industry segments to transition their Sales and Marketing Departments

to meet and exceed projected sales and profit margins. Expanding his horizons to the import/export industry, Eldredge consults at MJS Trading, Inc. as their Senior Director of Marketing and Sales in the U.S., which provides a full line of confectionary, candy, and snack food products.

In response to Trendsetter's final interview question of what lies ahead for EDC Contracting Consultants, Inc., Mr. Washington states, "As the future unfolds, it is my desire to continue to mentor the younger generation of construction professionals in technology, professional practices, and consultation in a rapidly changing industry."

To learn more about Eldredge Washington and EDC Contracting Consultants, visit them on the world wide web at: [www.edcconsultants.com](http://www.edcconsultants.com).



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# Barack Obama: Historical Trendsetter

**B**arack Hussein Obama was born Aug. 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii. His father, Barack Obama, Sr., was born of Luo ethnicity in Nyanza Province, Kenya. He grew up herding goats with his own father, who was a domestic servant to the British. Obama's mother, Ann Dunham, grew up in Wichita, Kansas. Her father worked on oil rigs during the Depression. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he signed up for service in World War II and marched across Europe in Patton's army. Dunham's mother went to work on a bomber assembly line.

Obama's parents separated when he was two years old and later divorced. Obama's father went to Harvard to pursue Ph. D. studies and then returned to Kenya. When Barack (commonly known throughout his early years as "Barry") was ten, he returned to Hawaii to live with his maternal grandparents, Madelyn and Stanley Dunham, and later his mother (who died of ovarian cancer in 1995).

Obama entered Harvard Law School in 1988. In February 1990, he was elected the first African-American editor of the Harvard Law Review. Obama graduated magna cum laude in 1991. After law school, Obama returned to Chicago to practice as a civil rights lawyer, joining the firm of Miner, Barnhill & Galland. He also taught at the University of Chicago Law School. And he helped organize voter registration drives.

Obama published an autobiography in 1995 *Dreams From My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*. And he won a Grammy for the audio version of the book.

Obama's advocacy work led him to run for the Illinois State Senate as a Democrat. He was elected in 1996 from the south side neighborhood of Hyde Park. During these years, Obama worked with both Democrats and Republicans in drafting legislation on ethics, expanded health care services and early childhood education programs for the poor. He also created a state earned-income tax credit for the working poor. And after a number of inmates on death row were found innocent, Obama worked with law enforcement officials to require the videotaping of interrogations and confessions in all capital cases.

He was invited to deliver the keynote speech in support of John Kerry at the 2004 Democratic National Convention in

Boston. Obama emphasized the importance of unity, and made veiled jabs at the Bush administration and the diversionary use of wedge issues. After the convention, Obama returned to his U.S. Senate bid in Illinois. His opponent in the general election was supposed to be Republican primary winner Jack Ryan, a wealthy former investment banker. However, Ryan withdrew from the race in June 2004, following public disclosure of unsubstantiated sexual allegations by Ryan's ex wife, actress Jeri Ryan.

In the November 2004 general election, Obama received 70% of the vote to

spoke out for victims of Hurricane Katrina, pushed for alternative energy development and championed improved veterans' benefits. He also worked with Democrat Russ Feingold of Wisconsin

They were married in October 1992 and live in Kenwood on Chicago's South Side with their daughters, Malia (born 1998) and Sasha (born 2001). □



**"I'M ASKING YOU TO BELIEVE.**

Not just in my ability to bring about real change in Washington ... I'm asking you to believe in yours."

- Barack Obama

Keyes's 27%, the largest electoral victory in Illinois history. Obama became only the third African American elected to the U.S. Senate since Reconstruction. Sworn into office January 4, 2005, Obama partnered with Republican Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana on a bill that expanded efforts to destroy weapons of mass destruction in Eastern Europe and Russia. Then with Republican Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, he created a website that tracks all federal spending.

Obama was also the first to raise the threat of avian flu on the Senate floor,

to eliminate gifts of travel on corporate jets by lobbyists to members of Congress.

In February 2007, Obama made headlines when he announced his candidacy for the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination. He was locked in a tight battle with former first lady and current U.S. Senator from New York, Hillary Rodham Clinton until he became the presumptive nominee on June 3, 2008. Obama met his wife, Michelle, in 1988 when he was a summer associate at the Chicago law firm of Sidley & Austin.



**Michelle (44) and Barack Obama (46) with daughters Malia (left) and Sasha outside their Chicago house.**

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He was enrolled in the fifth grade at the esteemed Punahou Academy, graduating with honors in 1979. He was only one of three black students at the school. This is where Obama first became conscious of racism and what it meant to be an African-American. In his memoir, Obama described how he struggled to reconcile social perceptions of his multiracial heritage. After high school, Obama studied at Occidental College in Los Angeles for two years. He then transferred to Columbia University in New York, graduating in 1983 with a degree in political science.

After working at Business International Corporation (a company that provided international business information to corporate clients) and NYPIRG, Obama moved to Chicago in 1985. There, he worked as a community organizer with low-income residents in Chicago's Roseland community and the Altgeld Gardens public housing development on the city's South Side.



TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## JAMAICAN JUDGE IN THE NETHERLANDS LAUDS ATHLETES

**H**is excellency Judge Patrick Robinson of the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands lauded Jamaican Athletes for their skills and determination to excel.

Speaking recently at the launching of his book, "Jamaican Athletics – a model for the world" at the Auburn Avenue Research Library in Atlanta, Judge Robinson said, not only was he paying tribute to the late great Herbert McKinley, but was also citing him on his achievement as the outstanding Track & Field athlete who broke the world record in Helsinki a few decades ago.

Herb McKinley or *Mass Herb*, as he was affectionately called, did his distance in 44.6 seconds on a cinder track and set the pace for others to follow, although they were privileged to run on modern synthetic tracks that greatly enhanced their speeds. McKinley certainly left his footprints on the sands of time, and imparted great examples for Jamaican coaches to follow, both technically and motivationally.

This magnificent athlete certainly engraphed his skills into the coaches, and which manifested itself in the feet of those distinguished young men and women who represented Jamaica at the Beijing Olympics. Addressing the audience Judge Robinson predicted that the Jamaican contingent to Beijing would run away with the medals...one, two, three. He said he had been taking notes of those young athletes over the years and was certain that the *doubtful Thomases* would be shocked at their performances.

His predictions were right on the money...weren't they? **SHOCKED THEY WERE INDEED!** The teams, male and female alike were magnificent, but it was the 22-year-old Usain Bolt who shut down the electricity at the stadium with a "bolt of lightning" which left everyone in amazement. He burnt up the tracks in a blistering 9.6 seconds, giving his signature victory sign as he scorched the ribbons at the finish line.

Now that the world has seen his ability, the sports commissioners should be cognizant of the fact that he will be



H.E. Judge Patrick Robinson

sought after by the "Big Guns" with loaded pockets. Listen to Judge Robinson; support the future athletes and the coaches. Keep them focused on their craft, and at the same time be unrelenting where education is concerned, albeit their humble background. Herb McKinley was an excellent athlete, but was also an intellect. It is great to have the goal medals, but is greater to have good education.



Jamaica's Bolt is world's fastest man



Herb spent his retiring years coaching and mentoring young athletes, wherever and whenever he could lay hands on them – whether it

was Europe or the United States. He gave hundreds of scholarships to budding athletes, especially those in colleges and universities. He received well-deserved titles including OM, OJ, and PD for his outstanding work.

Talking about titles and medals, how about giving Merlene Ottey what was rightfully hers at past Olympics? Her competitors, you will remember, were found to be using enhancement drugs.

The recent Jamaican athletes claimed that they drew more blood from them than was consumed by Dracula. Can you imagine how much faster they would have run if they were not drained of so much blood? Ottey was never proven to be on drugs, so giving her the gold medal would be the honorable thing to do. She ran a (clean) race – did not use yam or voodoo. The Jamaicans claim that it was just a Jamaican thing... willpower, persistence, and the desire to win.

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## JACQUES MILES: Living At The Center Of The Earth



**I** want to share a little of the beauty of this country with you. Telling you is one thing but showing you is another. This is just a few of the things that are so different. This country is awe-inspiring. It is poor economically, but the beauty of it will take your breath away.

Now, I have a very funny incident to tell you about. I call this one "Stupid Gringos".

I remember the first time I went to Peru. The experience was very humbling. I was with a mixed crowd of friends...4 Americans and 5 Ecuadorians. I had been in Ecuador about 2 months and had made some great friends who became like family. They looked after us Americans, making sure we weren't overcharged for meals or taxis.

Taxi drivers are notorious for this. Anyway, the streets were very narrow and very over crowded. People were everywhere. There were street merchants selling everything from food to clothes, from birds to monkeys, even witchdoctors and warlocks were selling roots and potions. I had never seen such a sight. Of course, we Americans stood out like sore thumbs.

We wanted to get away to a place not so chaotic...a place more peaceful. A

place called Mancora. Mancora is a beautiful beach surrounded by mountains. From the shore, at times, you can see families of whales passing in blue water. This is the place to be... **SO I THOUGHT.** We decided to go by taxi and there wasn't a shortage of volunteers. At least 18 or 19 taxi drivers surrounded us, "the Gringos", shouting and auctioning, all trying to undercharge the other, while skillfully overcharging the gringos. When we finally agreed and were on our way, I remembered Georgia. A little home-sick I think. While passing through deserts and bare mountains, I saw on one side of the road only sand and mountains and on the other side, there was the blue Pacific Ocean.

Once we got there, we made our camp on the beach. We set up our tent, and took out our pots and pans. After hours of swimming and playing, night fell. I tell you, on a Peruvian beach under a starry night, seemed to be true peace. I have never seen so many stars. We built a fire and sat and enjoyed the moment with our Ecuadorian brothers. Before we went to sleep, we placed our clothes out to dry, and all our shoes were neatly lined up outside the tent... **BAD IDEA!!!** The next morning everything

was gone. Clothes, shoes, pots and pans... everything that was not on the inside of the tent had grown legs and left without saying goodbye. Needless to say, only the Americans were foolish enough to leave clothes and shoes outside, in one of the poorest countries in South America. One of our Ecuadorian brothers was finally able to stop laughing long enough to say, "Stupid Gringos". Then everyone gave way to laughter. I still don't know how he learned English so fast.

We went back home to Ecuador with less luggage and barefoot... but a little wiser.



My wife, Raquel, and me. Raquel says, "Hola". (Hello in Spanish)

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## McDonald's Celebrates the Grand-Reopening of its Iconic First African American Owned Restaurant



(l to r) McDonald's African American firsts, Don Thompson, president of McDonald's USA; Ron Damper, CEO of Damron Teas, McDonald's first African American supplier; Herman Petty, McDonald's first African American franchisee; and Bob Beavers, the first African American elected to McDonald's board of directors.

**(BLACK PR WIRE) OAK BROOK,** McDonald's recently celebrated its proud and long-standing commitment to the African American community, to diversity and to nurturing black business. The company's first African American-owned franchise, originally opened in 1968 under Chicagoan Herman Petty, celebrated its official reopening with its newest African American owner, Yolanda Travis, an operator of four restaurants in Chicago, including this landmark restaurant.

"This is living the dream," said Travis. "Martin Luther King, Jr. wanted African Americans to have businesses within the community. He wanted to see us successful." Today, more than 300 African American own more than 1,200



McDonald's restaurants in the U.S., and their combined sales constitute one of the largest African American enterprises in the U.S.

"The reopening of the restaurant really shows our ongoing commitment to continue to reinvest back into our restaurants and in the communities in which we do business," said McDonald's USA President Don Thompson, who worked at the restaurant in 1990 when he first began his McDonald's career.

Since the early days, McDonald's has continued to celebrate its deep roots in African American communities across the country and its commitment to black businesses and diversity.

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## Hilton Hotels Corporation Makes \$3 Million Commitment to Annual Scholarship Fund

Unveils \$200,000 Donation at Hilton Baltimore Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

### About Hilton Hotels Corporation

**H**ilton Hotels Corporation is the leading global hospitality company, with more than 3,000 hotels and 500,000 rooms in 74 countries, with more than 135,000 team members worldwide. The company owns, manages or franchises some of the best known and highly regarded hotel brands including Hilton(R), Conrad(R) Hotels & Resorts, Doubletree(R), Embassy Suites Hotels(R), Hampton Inn(R), Hampton Inn & Suites(R), Hilton Garden Inn(R), Hilton Grand Vacations(TM), Homewood Suites by Hilton(R) and The Waldorf=Astoria Collection(TM).

Hilton Hotels Corporation is an Official Sponsor of the U.S. Olympic Team, which will extend through the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Vancouver, the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London, the 2010/2012 U.S. Paralympic Team and the 2011 U.S. Pan American Team.



(L to R) Karen NDour, Principal, NAF Baltimore, Craig Spilman, Executive Director of CollegeBound, Linda Norman, General Manager, Hilton Baltimore, and Ted Ratcliff, Senior Vice President - Americas Operations - Eastern U.S., Canada, Caribbean, & Central America

**(BLACK PR WIRE) BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.--** (BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 27, 2008--Hilton Hotels Corporation ("Hilton"), presented to CollegeBound Foundation the first installment of a \$3 million 15 year commitment towards the Hilton Baltimore Convention Center Hotel Scholarship Fund at the Hilton Baltimore's official opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. The \$200,000 check was presented to launch the program increasing educational opportunities for students in Baltimore to pursue a career in the hospitality industry.

"Hilton is pleased to play an integral role in increasing educational opportunities for the young people of Baltimore City, and especially Baltimore City public high school graduates who intend to enroll or are enrolled in a college hotel, hospitality, and/or restaurant management program," said Ted Ratcliff, Senior Vice President - Americas Operations - Eastern US, Canada, Caribbean & Central America. "This aligns with Hilton's Diversity commitment which encompasses the support and advancement of minority youth."

As the scholarship fund administrator, CollegeBound will award scholarships to qualified and eligible students in Baltimore City public high schools with the first priority to the Na-

tional Academy Foundation. These students intend to enroll in hotel, hospitality, and/or restaurant programs at two or four year colleges. The National Academy Foundation High School is a Baltimore City public high school located on the Federal Hill campus of Digital Harbor High School. NAF Baltimore is a high school which integrates three academies to form one high school: Information Technology, Finance, and Hospitality & Tourism.



Hilton Baltimore features 883,000 square feet of interior space, including 757 deluxe guest rooms, and is the only hotel in the city providing an enclosed pedestrian sky bridge to the Baltimore Convention Center. The hotel offers planners 60,000 square feet of flexible function space, including the 25,000 square foot Francis Scott Key ballroom, 15,000 square foot Billie Holiday ballroom, and an additional 20,000 square feet of flexible meeting space. All meeting rooms provide wired and wireless high-speed Internet access, data, voice and visual transmission. A professional audio/video staff and expert conference and event services team are available to help ensure a memorable experience for meeting planners and their guests. A 24-hour business center is equipped with computer workstations, copiers, printers and fax machines.

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Mary Schwartzkopf  
U.S. United Queen of Queens 2008  
Lincoln, NE

## Creating a Crown That Touches Lives and Makes a Difference

By Mary Schwartzkopf



Mary displays her "United We Crown Caps". The caps were designed on behalf of her sister, Chung, and the U.S. United Pageant.



Mary presents a crown cap to her sister, Chung.

As the 2007 Mrs. U.S. United winner, and the recently crowned 2008 U.S. United Queen of Queens, I have really had eye-opening experiences in many of the appearances I have made. The platform of the U.S. United Pageant is Breast Cancer Awareness. Yes, I have my mammogram done yearly. Every month I do a self-exam, and I see my doctor for yearly physicals.

BUT what really touched me is the fact that my sister has been cancer free for 3 years! I will never forget the night she had her mastectomy operation and being able to call her nurse to make sure she was ok. We are 18 months apart and have always tried to stay close over the years. I wished I was there with her, but at the time I wasn't able to physically be there. However, I was as close as a phone call away. A year after she recuperated from that surgery, she was scheduled for a series of reconstructive surgeries that took place over the next 2 1/2 years. It had to be very hard for her to go through all this and hope that she would be cancer free as time went on. I had been supporting Breast Cancer Awareness programs for over 8 years but it didn't touch home until my sister was affected.

A very close friend of mine, Carolyn, who was diagnosed with a cancer that affected her bones and lungs, asked me to design a cap that female survivors would enjoy wearing. Since I had been involved in pageants, she thought I needed to make a rhinestone crown design on a cap for those facing cancer or those who are survivors. Carolyn also encouraged me to remember that my sister was a Breast Cancer Survivor and thought I should share the caps with a program that supported Breast Cancer Awareness.

My friend Carolyn was one of my greatest supporters while I was competing in pageants. She was always kind and encouraged me to make the most of the experience, because God al-

ways had a reason why we do the things we do and that He had a special plan for me. Carolyn passed away in Sept 2006 which truly hurt my heart, but gave me the motivation that I needed; I had to create the cap project.

I wanted to raise my own funds for the supplies to make these special caps. It wasn't until later the next year that I would finally pursue this venture. I was able to design a cap for Breast Cancer Awareness on behalf of Marchia Mickens' U.S. United Pageant. When I won the Mrs. U.S. United Pageant in July 2007, I decided to call that special cap "United We Crown Caps", dedicated to my sister and to Marchia's Pageant.

During my reign, I also began work on "Carolyn's Caps" which I dedicated to my friend Carolyn Dye & her family, who live in North Platte, Nebraska. These caps acknowledge all forms of cancer. The first cap from "Carolyn's Caps" was presented to her daughter, Laurie. In June, I met with a representative from the Nebraska State American Cancer Society in Lincoln to officially launch "Carolyn's Caps".

By creating "United We Crown Caps", I am supporting Breast Cancer Awareness, recognizing Marchia Mickens' U.S. United National Pageant, and have dedicated the first cap from this project to my sister Chung, a breast cancer survivor. This has given me the opportunity to truly reflect the crown I wore as Mrs. U.S. United 2007, and now as U.S. United Queen of Queens 2008, as the definition of what it means to make a difference with others. I will continue to use my gifts to fight cancer.

By presenting both of these caps to programs, survivors and others, we can raise the bar in **Breast Cancer Awareness as well as All forms of Cancer**, and continue to produce funds to someday soon. **FIND A CURE!**

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## IMAGINE YOUR SUCCESS

Written By Tracy Washington

Imagine being an internationally known motivational speaker inspiring millions of people with the message of hope and inspiration. Imagine traveling the world going from schools, churches, prisons, day cares, nursing homes and business organizations inspiring people to overcome being victims. Imagine being a poet, a vocalist, an author and a singer. Imagine being able to type 35 words per minute -- *Imagine doing all this being born without arms.*

I want to ask you today what's keeping you from achieving personal success? What adversity do you perceive is blocking you from reaching your goals? Is it fear, lack of planning, doubt? What could be keeping you from moving forward in achieving your dreams **RIGHT NOW!**

I want to share you with the story of a phenomenal woman named Tawana Williams who was born without arms. Tawana was able to overcome many obstacles and challenges in her life. When Tawana's mother was pregnant she took a drug called Thalidomide which was given to expectant mothers for nausea. Adequate testing had not been done on this drug and it was later discovered that it caused severe birth defects in the fetus. Tawana was born without arms and her mother and grandmother took care of her as best they could but soon realized that she needed specialized care. Tawana's mother made a bold move and wrote a letter to then President John F. Kennedy. Upon receipt of her letter at the Oval Office, President John F. Kennedy was so moved that he paid for Tawana to attend an institution in North Carolina for special needs children. Tawana learned how to use her feet to do everything that people with arms and hands can do. As a teen, peer pressure began to set in and in order to fit in Tawana got involved with crack cocaine use for a number of years. She one day had a revelation that she was created to do bigger and better things and just because she didn't have arms didn't mean that her life was over. She talks about her experience in her book entitled "Unarmed but Dangerous". Today Tawana is a wife, mother (the way she demonstrates changing her baby's pampers with her feet is phenomenal), grandmother, a speaker, author, and CEO of a non-profit organization called Tawana Williams Outreach.

As I had the opportunity to interview with Tawana and I listened to her story, I thought to myself "What's my problem"? If this woman who was born without arms can move forward in life and live her dreams and achieve success - why can't I? I pose that question to you - Why can't you? What adversity is so great that you are unable to move forward with your goals and dreams of achieving success?

One step you have to take in achieving your goals is to believe in yourself. Do you think that you are able to achieve your dreams? Have you given yourself permission to succeed? Do you know that many of us are scared of success and actually sabotage our own future? I used to be in radio sales and had to make daily cold calls. I secretly hoped that the person I was calling didn't answer so I could avoid talking to them and just leave a message. I knew I possessed all the inner qualities of a great salesperson, but I purposely sabotaged my own success because of my own personal fears.

So I ask you today what personal fears do you have? What are you consciously or subconsciously doing to sabotage your own success? Are you thinking that you are successful? It's been quoted that "As a man *thinketh*, so is He". So if you *think* you are successful, you **ARE** successful! You have to believe it in your mind first to see it manifest outwardly. I would go so far as to say there are times when you have to act your way into right thinking.

Your brain will catch up later. Act like the person you think that you are. When you have a vision of what your life is to become, when you start acting like that person that you see in the vision, you will eventually become that if you have a plan on how to get there.

Do you have a mission statement or a vision statement for your life?

very organization has a mission or vision statement that expresses what they do and how they do it. You are in the business of living. What do **you** want to become? What do you want to accomplish? How long is it going to take? What action steps are necessary to achieve your goal?

If you aren't able to imagine yourself being successful, take a moment to reflect on the following points:

- Identifying what's holding you back from personal success.
- Recognize adversity and challenge is something you can overcome.
- Believe in yourself.
- Thinking that you can do it.
- Acting your way into right thinking.
- Developing a mission or vision statement.
- Develop goals and implement plans.

### TAKE ACTION!

I want to add that you cannot do any of these things listed above if you do not first make a decision to do so. You have to *will* or *choose* to take these steps. They will not happen automatically. You will not just wake up one morning and be successful. You have to make a conscious choice each day to get up, take action, and make good choices. You are already "born successful" and you have the ability to work what's on the inside (the vision) to the outside (your reality).

I was inspired by Tawana's story on overcoming obstacles and her message of hope and inspiration. She helped me to see that there is nothing that can hold you back from the life that you have imagined but you. God created you to be successful and that's why you face such adversity because the devil knows that you have greatness on the inside of you to impact the world and he's fighting you for it trying to keep you distracted and discouraged focusing on the wrong thing. It's time to turn the situation around and imagine being the person that you were created to be and start acting like it!

There's a quote that Tawana uses in her email signature that says it all - "*To get on your true route to success, get mentors who inspire you, models that you can follow, and methods that you can implement.*"

Tracy Washington is President and Founder of Fashion Your Soul - [www.FashionYourSoul.com](http://www.FashionYourSoul.com). "Don't Just Dress Up The Outside, Dress Up The Inside". She is a speaker, coach, writer and workshop presenter and can be reached at [Tracy@FashionYourSoul.com](mailto:Tracy@FashionYourSoul.com).

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Tracy Washington  
Akron, OH



# Love Is...

Richard Thompson  
Akron, OH

**A** word that has many meanings, depending on the

context in which it is used. One could say that they love their car, or you could say that you love the way a certain flower looks; or even one can state their love for their child. Love. A word that can inspire people to do great and marvelous works. It is also a word that can create wars, death and destruction.

So when we evoke the word love, do we really understand the power of this word? Love is an action word that implies that an individual must be ready to accept the heavy responsibilities that goes along with the word love. Three, but not all, of these responsibilities are: commitment, sacrifice, and loyalty

When you love someone, you are committed to developing to the fullest the God-person within that individual. You must understand that love comes from God, and in understanding that very important reality, love is something that must be taken very seriously. You cannot state to someone that you love them, without first having the right love relationship with the Creator or your attempts to truly provide the love to them that is needed will fall short.

Because beloved, the Love of God requires that you sacrifice whatever you must to ensure that the one you love is paramount to your being. When a parent works two shifts in order to save enough money for their child to attend the best schools in order for their child can have the best education, they do so because that parent knows that education is the key to success in our society. The son who donates their kidney to their father whose kidney is failing does so knowing that the life of their father outweighs any discomfort they will have to endure by only having one kidney. The wife who gets up a little early each day to pray with her husband before he goes to work is making sure that their marriage is covered by the God of the Universe. And the soldier, who throws himself upon a grenade, knowing he will surely die, does so in order to save the lives of his comrades.

Love is not a surface emotion or feeling. It cannot be encapsulated in a song, a ring or the gift of flowers. Now those expressions of love are fine in the proper context, but those events in and of themselves do not truly define the meaning of love. Love is the deep spiritual manifestation of the love of God within us.

You cannot truly love a person without becoming spiritually attached to that individual; otherwise you are sorely missing the

mark. Because when you truly love someone your spirits are connected in such a way that whenever you are apart it feels as if you are missing a piece of yourself. That is why couples who have been together for a long time can finish the others sentence; their spirits are speaking to each other. It is why a mother who lives in New York can know when her child is in trouble in California, because their spirits are connected.

Loving someone for material possessions, or their social standing, or even because of some sexual attraction is a selfish, vain shallow physical emotion that is not really love at all. That is what the Bible calls lust. That is the love of eye, not the love of the spirit, which God hates. When you love, truly love someone; you love them with all your being. You love them with or without a job. You love them when the doctor gives them a bad report. As Bishop T.D. Jakes says, "I want someone to love me even when I am standing in the unemployment line." That is what is defined as loyalty.

The test of true love is not when all is going well, the true test of love is when the electricity is cut off, the car is repossessed and the house is in foreclosure. Will you stay with your mate, friend, or the person you have been dating for a year or more or will you abandon them to find, what you may think is a better financial situation? Or will you stay together and fight through the hard times, believing in the marriage vows (covenant oath), friendship covenant or relationship covenant? It is easier to run away, thinking that the grass is greener in the other yard. But did you stop to think that if that grass was Astro-turf? Or what would be your reaction if the person you thought loved you, abandoned you if the situation was reversed?

The love for your spouse, family member and friends will be tested as steel is tested in the fire by the everyday living of life. Will you allow God to strengthen your spirit in order for your love to be as strong as the steel of the two-edged sword, or will you allow the enemy to make your love as brittle as a toothpick?

Richard M. Thompson is President of *R.M. Thompson & Associates, LLC*, a financial business plan/project planner consultant to small businesses and non-profits; freelance writer and Certified Homebuyer Education Instructor. Mr. Thompson can be reached at [thmpsnmic@gmail.com](mailto:thmpsnmic@gmail.com).

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## Hidden Behind the Eyes

Commentary by: Nayr O'Neal

**W**hy do people seem to be comfortable with hiding their feelings? What is it that makes a man or woman so afraid to tell their true feelings about one situation or another, that they are willing to miss out on what God has for them. I have been accused a many of times by people that talk around what you ask them, avoid answering what you ask directly and these people seem to be unnervingly comfortable with skirting the truth. People...when will we wake up and realize that this IS NOT the way that God intended us to live? I read a relationship expert's (using the word very loosely) suggestions of not telling a perspective mate some of the intimacies of your past. While this may play out in some (very limited) cases, you can't expect this person that you're withholding information, however insignificant, from to reciprocate. My recent column, "...the Best Policy", touched on the fact that people in general today do not regard honesty as a need in everyday life. We have become so plastic and attempt to be so politically correct that the correctness is all one big lie!! How honest are you ....first with yourself, and then with the people in your life. Let me just disclaim...If you're not honest with yourself, chances are you're a lot less honest with the people in your life. No need to think on that one. However detached from ourselves we all may be, we are still subject to God first and foremost and then ourselves. You are obligated in truth to every person that you meet or utter words to. No matter what the circumstance, you do owe that person the truth. He (or she) has to make up their own mind about whatever circumstance you may be putting before them. Your obligation to them is that you present the option of making a conscience decision to go along with what you're proposing or not. In fairness to them and you, you both begin to make the best decision for your lives. I believe everyone should have that right. People today don't feel that same need, however.

## Peace

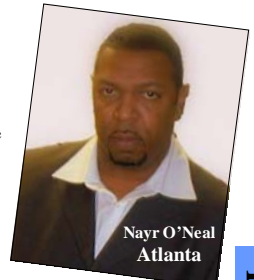
by Dr. Alfred Adams



New Orleans, LA

Unknown

The endless wars and conflicts and injustices we see in the world today only prove what the Bible has always declared concerning mankind: "The way of peace they not known" (Romans 3:17). All efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace miserably fail for the simple reason that the root of the problem is not dealt with. Peace unknown on the national and international levels only proves that peace is unknown in the individual hearts of people. God alone has the solution to the problem of peace for nations, for individuals, and for you, dear reader. He has successfully dealt with the root cause of all distress sin. He now offers sure and lasting peace for the heart and conscience in the Person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ who says, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let



Nayr O'Neal  
Atlanta

Man...if I could get a dime for all of the times that I've said to someone, "Can you explain that please...I didn't understand?" or "Please speak in direct or exact words so I can understand and respond accordingly?"

It seems that we are so geared to protecting ourselves that we are stepping on the other person's toes trying to keep our toes free of damage. But what we're not realizing is that we are damaging that person's trust in us and when the person asks and consistently doesn't get a clear answer, that person's mind starts to work a little harder in wondering if they can trust you with their friendship. Would you do the same? I've noticed that when you put those people that mince words and don't talk direct in the same situation that they put you or other people in, it truly frustrates them. I've seen some of my own friends and cohorts get downright angry because I wasn't clear enough in my words to them. Where's the balance? Shouldn't you be eager to get what you give (in any circumstance!)? Of course you should...as "Karma" would have it. You are doomed as well as blessed to get exactly what you plant as a seed into the earth. I believe the saying goes "You will surely reap what you sow."

So ask yourself...Are you afraid to give with your soul exposed?

For response and rebuttal, please feel free to email me at [metta4thepopt@yahoo.com](mailto:metta4thepopt@yahoo.com)

Your questions and comments are very welcome.

not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid". (John 14:27).

**Known**

"He is our Peace," (Ephesians 2:14) Peace does not come from ourselves and we are not to look within our hearts for the true measure of it. We do have the enjoyment of it there, and the more simply we believe the Word of God, the fuller such enjoyment will be, for peace is in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Possessing Him as Saviour and Lord, the believer has peace of conscience as to his sins, and peace of heart as to his circumstances. Jesus said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace" (John 16:33). Therefore, Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at Peace; thereby good shall come unto thee" (job 22:21).

For more information about Dr. Adams please visit [www.nearinmindright.com](http://www.nearinmindright.com)

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Nurse Carol Rice  
Dekalb County School System  
Georgia

Parents of school age children may have concerns regarding immunizations for children going or returning to school. Rules and regulations differ from state to state, as the U.S. Supreme Court has given states the right to enact and enforce compulsory vaccines. All states require a series of vaccines. The schedule recommended is reviewed and updated annually to comply with guidelines established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Committee on Infectious Disease of American Academy of Pediatrics. Students can be excluded from

## Immunizations and School Age Children

By Carol Rice

school if they fail to meet the state mandated requirements.

There is protection for infants against some diseases at birth because of antibodies from the mother. This can continue if the infant is breastfed. This protection is temporary. Vaccination occurs when small amounts of a killed or weakened microorganism (which causes a particular disease) is given to create immunity. The immune system is stimulated to fight off the infection. This is remembered and will fight off the organism in case it enters the body later. The vaccine does not cause the disease. Mild reactions may occur (soreness at the site of injection, elevated temperature). Serious reactions are rare. Compared to health risks when a person has the disease-the side effects of vaccinations are small.

There may be reasons to delay the vaccines. Talk with your health care provider since each child is an individual. Medical exemptions are allowed by all states. All but two states have an exemption based on religious grounds. A formal document is necessary to record a parent/guardian's refusal of vaccinations for their child.

Fortunately, most people living now have never seen measles, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, etc., in an individual. However, a disease may only be a plane ride away, if a person

entering or leaving and re-entering our country with the bacteria or virus of one of these preventable diseases.

Even though each state mandates their requirements – the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the following:

- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough))
- Hib (meningitis – 1PV (polio) – Influenza
- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) – Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A – MCV4 (bacterial meningitis)
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) Varicella (chicken pox)

Some states have a tracking system provided on their website. The tracking system in the state of Georgia is called GRITS (Georgia Registry Immunization Tracking System). Form 3231 is required for students entering a school in Georgia and is completed by the health care provider and available online by designated health care sites.

The goal of all states and schools is to keep our children as healthy as possible. For a student to learn at an optimum level, he/she should be healthy. Health care providers believe designated vaccines are a way of achieving this goal. □

## Stay Active—Keep Your Legs Healthy

(NAPSI)-Though, like many Americans, you may never have heard of a condition called claudication, you can still feel its effect. Claudication is discomfort, pain or a tired feeling in your legs that happens when you walk or exercise and goes away when you rest.

Your arteries carry blood rich in oxygen and nutrients from your heart to your legs. When arteries become narrow or blocked, leg muscles may not receive enough blood and oxygen to support physical activity. This condition is called peripheral arterial disease, or PAD.



Lifestyle changes that can help manage leg artery disease include exercising,

managing diabetes, lowering high cholesterol, lowering high blood pressure, a diet low in saturated fats and calories, maintaining ideal body weight and not smoking.

If you're diagnosed with claudication, or PAD, you should see a vascular surgeon who can treat you with medication and other noninvasive procedures.

To learn more about claudication and locate a vascular surgeon, visit the Society of Vascular Surgery's Web Site at [www.VascularWeb.org](http://www.VascularWeb.org).

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## OCTOBER Is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Be Aware • Be Informed • Be Healthy

### African Americans And Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in African American women (101.5 per 100,000) and the second leading cause of death among African American women, exceeded only by lung cancer. African American women have a higher breast cancer death rate (31.0 per 100,000) than women of any other racial or ethnic population. In 2003, an estimated 20,000 new cases of breast cancer and 5,700 deaths are expected to occur among African American women. Although breast cancer incidence is lower among African Americans, mortality rates among African American women are approximately 28 percent higher than among white women. African American women's survival rate for breast cancer has increased in recent decades. The five-year survival rate for breast cancer among African American women is 73 percent compared to 88 percent among Caucasian women. The factors that may explain this difference in survival rates include biologic and genetic differences in tumors, the presence of risk factors, barriers to health care access, health behaviors and later stage of disease at diagnosis. Participation in annual mammog-

raphy screening and treatment of the disease at its earliest stages offers the best opportunity for decreasing mortality and improving survival

Susan G Komen Foundation

Even though white women have a higher rate of developing breast cancer, African American women are more likely to die from breast cancer. Some ethnic and racial groups have been less likely to receive breast cancer screening, and thus their breast cancers are often diagnosed at later stages. This later diagnosis increases the chance of dying from breast cancer.

Health Communication Research Laboratory at Saint Louis University. ©2006 The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.



### The U.S. United Pageant

Bringing Awareness To Breast Cancer



#### 2008 Breast Cancer Walk

Saturday, October 18, 2008

Registration (\$15.00) begins at 8:00am

Wade Walker Park

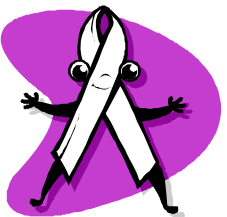
5585 Rockbridge Road

Stone Mountain, GA 30088

Visit us at [www.usunitedpageant.com/bcwalk](http://www.usunitedpageant.com/bcwalk)

Or call: (404) 434-7331 or (678) 296-6780

For information on how you can participate



### Some Breast Cancer Facts

Three million women are living with breast cancer in the U.S. today.

Approximately 90% of women who develop breast cancer *do not* have a family history of the disease.

Every 2 days in Georgia, 23 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and 6 women will die of the disease.

Every 2 days in the U.S., it is estimated that 998 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer, and 224 will die of the disease.

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# SIZE SEXY DIVAS

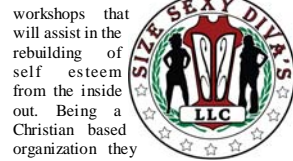
Written by: SizeSexyDiva N'Charge  
 Edited by: SizeSexyDayna Tolbert



**L**atrecia Antwine affectionately known by here clients and friends as Nikki "The Unique Stylist" knows exactly what it means to be a Trendsetter. Being an established cosmetologist for over 15 years and a salon owner from Houston, Texas she interacts with beautiful women on a daily basis. After conversing for years with these women and trying out for Monique's Phat Chance, she realized they all had a common interest. They where all plus size, educated, and talented divas looking to be more involved in something positive while changing the way the world looks at plus size women. This is where she gave birth to SizeSexyDivas, where their motto is "We Are The Majority And

**Not The Minority."**

SizeSexyDivas is an empowerment organization for plus size women. They believe that society has made women and young girls feel that if you're not the size of the current media runway model, you have nothing to offer. Well they are here to change that stereotype. They believe in being healthy at any size. Reports have shown that you can be a size 5 and unhealthy and a size 14 and have a clean bill of health and that's what "The Divas" promote, healthy active living. SizeSexyDivas believe their talent and skills far extend the runway and they intend to let their light shine. These Divas assist with human development as well as community involvement by motivating and assuring other plus size women that they are accepted and needed. In recent months, "The Divas" hosted a plus size hair and fashion extravaganza entitled, "It's a Jungle Out There, Wrap It Up." This sold out event benefited HIV/AIDS education and awareness. The SizeSexyDivas fully intend to continue providing empowerment conferences, seminars, fashion and hair shows, networking events, and



workshops that will assist in the rebuilding of self esteem from the inside out. Being a Christian based organization they believe with God on their side they will redesign sexy as a state of mind. "The Divas" believe in **Psalms: 139:14** *We will praise thee for we are fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that our soul knoweth right well.*

In the months to come you will get to know these divas on a personal level so stay tuned to Trendsetters to Trendsetters Magazine next month as we explore the topic "Being Diva-fied In A Man's World" featuring Ms Jacqueline Robinson.

**For more on The Divas visit them @ [www.sizesexydivas.com](http://www.sizesexydivas.com)**

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

**S**chool is in and we're all looking to change our look to showing enhancing growth from the last year. Some of us may have cut our hair or let it grow out, some of us are now beginning to wear make up for the first time or trying to change it up a bit. No matter what you're doing remember you're you and you love who you are. That's the first enhancing tip of the day.

Now that we're comfortable with ourselves we can move on because we know no matter what, we're beautiful with a change or not... we're just having fun and showing off another side of who's inside of us, Right? Fall colors are approaching us. And they're beautiful. They create a sense of warmth and love, from your burnt orange, fire reds, and mustard yellows. Let's be creative in creating our new look.

*For you who have to change up your foundation color, because of the seasons changing, it's time for you to become a Sommers Cosmetics Customer, one compact all year round, no matter what season you're in.*

The foundation is on, lets be creative with our lips, don't be afraid to have

fun. Remember that people see you the way you see yourself, so in everything you do, see it as being beautiful and it will be. Nothing gets on my nerves more than those who need the approval of others. That's low self-esteem and that bothers me a lot. What's crazy is that if you have low self-esteem you're more accepted, but when you're **confident**, you're then told: you think you're too much, you're vain, conceited, and other nonsense. That's because misery love company, and because they're suffering from low self-esteem they want you to be a part of there party. You need to shake them off, learn to be happy by yourself, and move on. I am happy with or without friends. (Eagles don't fly in packs, only pigeons.)

Back to those lips, find your three different colors that you like, one should be dark to use as a liner, colors like Sommers Cosmetics Eclipse, Merlot, or Diva. For the middle use a warm fall color, like Sommers Cosmetics Copper Glitz, Copper Penny or Golden Sunset. Colors like these should enhance your complexion, and for the very inside where the straw



When done your lips should look like this...  
**Speechless Lips**

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Chirl Girl-V101.9  
Charlotte, NC



## Chirl Girl

Her first job in radio was at WSAT-AM in her hometown of Salisbury, NC at the age of 10. As a trailblazer of the industry, Chirl was the first African-American personality to ever host a show on WSOC-FM (Charlotte's country station).

In addition to her many talents, Chirl has an extensive background in theatre. Her passions for the arts lead her to working with the North Carolina Black Reparatory Theatre and the Piedmont Players. She also starred in a local production of "The Bluest Eye" at the Afro-American Children's Theatre. Chirl even worked as a theatre make-up artist at her alma mater the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Naturally, Chirl is a talented speaker. Her honors include awards from the Toastmasters organization; speaking engagements to benefit the United Negro College Fund, UNC-TV(WTVI), the Pride Awards and countless other events. She has been recognized for her continued support of her community through her volunteer work.

In her spare time, Chirl can found reading, paper sculpting and dancing. And yes, she can do everything from shagging to line dancing to dropping it like it's hot! She is a proud member of the Order of the Eastern Stars Red Branch #418.



Joyce Littel-V-103  
Atlanta, GA

## Joyce Littel

Native of Athens, Georgia, Joyce Littel's broadcasting career began on the campuses of Clark Atlanta University and her alma mater Morris Brown College. Upon graduation she embarked on a 17 year career as the host of the Quiet Storm on The People's Station V-103 FM (103.3 WVEE-Atlanta). Joyce's smooth, sexy voice is synonymous with romantic slow jams. Aside from her disc jockey duties, Joyce Littel hosts a weekly talk show segment, "The Love & Relationships listeners in dialogue concerning matters of the heart and timely social issues.

"Always wanting to maximize her opportunities, Joyce created "Poetic Moments" as a means of entertaining her audience with poetry read by local spoken-word artists. Sexy, sassy & daring the popularity of "Poetic Moments" has made Joyce an icon in the poetry community receiving hundreds of submissions from wannabe writers and poets on a daily basis. Taking the vibe of "Poetic Moments" one step further, Joyce is the only on-air personality that has produced her own recurring stage production. This stroke of genius know world wide as "Passion & Poetry" has had 9 sold out runs in Atlanta and will soon tour across the country.

Joyce's inherent ability to engage people in conversations has made her a sought after spokesperson for numerous products and organizations. She is also a highly requested host and emcee for various events and symposiums. No longer is Joyce Littel Atlanta property, but her voice is heard weekly on the nationally syndicated **AutoScoop** with co-host Adam Goldfeind.

TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS



Birmingham,



**Name:** SUPREME

Montevallo Cable Radio  
1994

**Airshift:** Classic Hip Hop Show

**What do you like most about Birmingham?** The Climate

**Where did you grow up?** Detroit, MI

**What are you most passionate about?** My Family

**When did you decide you wanted to do radio?** In the 80's, growing up listening to the Electrifying Mojo on WJLB in Detroit.

**Three things that you can't do without:** Health, Wealth, and Knowledge of Self

**How did you get your start in radio?** My First radio show was called "Basement Flava" on University of

**Five Albums that everyone should own:**

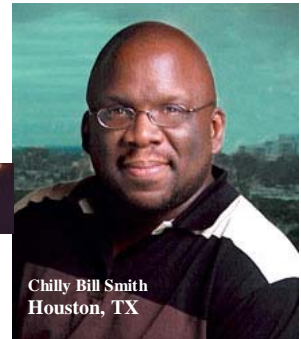
- 1.It takes a Nation of Millions to hold us back-Public Enemy
- 2.Mecca and the Soul Brother-Pete Rock & CL Smooth
3. Fantastic Vol.2- Slum Village
4. AJA- Steely Dan
- 5.\*TIE\* The Low End Theory- A Tribe Called Quest(Midnight Marauders- A Tribe Called Quest

**Song that BEST defines you:** "Paid the Cost to be the Boss" by James Brown To Find out more about me hit me up on Myspace [myspace.com/supremeonline](http://myspace.com/supremeonline)

## Chilly Bill Smith

Chilly Bill Smith "Houston's Hardest Working Man In Radio" began his radio career at Jack Yates Senior High School of Communications. After graduating in 1983, He attended Texas Southern's School of Communications are was a part of the Kids Jam Radio Show on K.T.S.U. as well as music mixer at parties, nightclubs, and special events. Chilly Bill's mixing talents caught the attention of KMQ-FM/ Majic 102.1 where he joined the radio station family in 1986. Chilly Bill was the first on-air mixer to actually take his show live from the Majic studios in the night clubs or special events of Houston. But his drive to succeed did not stop there. He also became Producer of some of Majic 102.1's top rated morning shows including "The Snowman and the Incredible Breakfast Club", "Doc

Kilgore and The Morning Wake-Up Service", and "The Funky Larry Jones Morning Show". Chilly Bill has also held titles of Promotions Director, Asst. Program Director, and Music Direc-



Chilly Bill Smith  
Houston, TX

tor. Chilly Bill has also had stints at other local radio stations in Houston but Majic 102.1 has always been home. Now your "Man Of The Streets" serves as "Promotions's Remote Coordinator and hosts The Show For The Third Shifters, "Majic After Midnight" The Weekend Edition and The Saturday Night Edition of "Club Majic". Chilly Bill has earned numerous honors for his outstanding community service to the city has calls home. He's received awards and honors

from community based organizations, churches, businesses, and more. He attributes his success to having a loving family base, great leadership and mentors, and the drive to entertain the city he calls home.

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Trendsetters to Trendsetters Magazine Arts &amp; Entertainment Director....

## Wallabe "The Realist"

**B**orn and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Walter J. Brewer a.k.a. "Wallabe", reputable as one of the few up and rising artist breaking through the walls of the industry with pure and positive lyrics, has become well known underground throughout the Midwest.

Growing up in the hoodskirts of Columbus, Wallabe, however cliché overcame the drugs, alcoholism and crime in his community. By witnessing the downfall and destruction not only to society in general, but the people close to him, Wallabe resisted the temptation of what was confronted him. In the midst of his grandmother's death on Thanksgiving Day of 1995, Walter J. Brewer started venting his anger and frustration on paper, which led him to unleash his talent.

Being inspired by many artist such as; Marvin Gaye 2Pac, E-40, Rakim, Bob Marley, Lauren Hill, Kanye West and many others Wallabe found balance in the delivery of his lyrics, sending a powerful message of positivity and reality for today and future generations. Because of this, Wallabe considers himself to be an **Urban Philosopher** along with his partner King Arthur and their independent label "The Realist Records". The Realist Records consist of a few talented artists such as; Wallabe, King Arthur, Big Mar, C-Magic, Don G, Crystal Black, Golden Dialect, V Godz and "The Realist Empire". Establishing a reputation all over the Midwest, East Coast and Dirty South, led to being nominated fro best recording artist in local publication "Columbus Alive" for exceptional promoting of CD's throughout the underground market with over 20,000 copies sold and (6) releases.

Since 1977 Wallabe has been ghost writing and performing in urban spots drawing crowds with his stage performance and presence. From the clubs to concerts, Wallabe has opened for premier artists such as Benie Segal, Ying Yang Twins, Fubu Entertainment Group and many others. Constantly being reminded of his civic and cultural obligations, he performs each year for the African-American Heritage Festival and

because of Wallabe's dedication to youth and crime; he helps to promote the Boys & Girls Club of American.

*I plan on bringing a new flavor to the entertainment world and the business of promotions with my electrifying swag and go-getter like persona. Trendsetters to Trendsetters Magazine introduces "In Da Paint", which will give me a chance to reveal the truth and to discuss real issues we deal with trying to break into whatever career the industry offers, whether it be rap, singing, acting, comedy, graphic artist, CEO of a record label, Fashion Designer, or whatever business you desire. Trendsetters will be giving us a voice; I will be the spokesman for this new age era. I will be touching base on what's going in the community, hood, suburbs, or the streets, and giving the best possible advice to upcoming entrepreneurs, soon to be superstars, or for those who just want to be involved with setting trends. I will also be showing love to all artists. If you can draw, paint, airbrush, can carve wood, dance, whatever talent you have, you will be heard or at least seen if you're setting trends. In Da Paint will give us a clear view of what trendsetters do and stand for. The grind we endure. The problems we face day in day out. A breathe of fresh air for those who stayed in da*



TOGETHER BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS



*paint (kept grinding) and were blessed with a successful venture or business who deserves some recognition.*

Contact Wallabe at:  
myspace.com/wallabe614  
wallabe@trendtotrendmag.com

## Shadow MOTION PICTURES...

### GEARING UP TO MAKE HISTORY

**R**.L. Scott created **Shadow Motion Pictures** back in 1998 as a vehicle for his own productions. The name originated from his frustration with Hollywood, as he felt that the true power and talent of African American people in film was hidden in the shadows. He felt that they were misrepresented and vowed to bring the true spirit and strength of his people to the forefront of cinema in his lifetime. His journey brought him to Atlanta Ga. In 2005 where one year later, he met **Jerome Ro Brooks** at a local film networking event. They instantly made a connection as like minded men, and a friendship was born that would later turn into a brotherhood.

Meanwhile **Monyque Thompson** was climbing up the ladder as a leading lady in several feature films and touring plays. She met **Terrance Parham** at an acting class for advanced students. The two became inseparable and the best of friends. In May of 2007, Monyque began preparing for her first role as the star of her first martial arts film. As fate would have it, she met R.L. Scott and he

began teaching her Chinese Wushu (Kung fu) for the film.

Through their training sessions, their love and respect grew for one another and in September of 2007 they became husband and wife. "When you are perfect for one another and God blesses you with a soul mate, you don't need ten years to figure it out", says R.L. "when you have been through as much as we have, you develop a lot more sense of what's real and what will stand the test of time."

Through Monyque, R.L. met Terrance and through R.L., Monyque and Terrance met Jerome. "We have been a family unit ever since. We are very close nit, and we talk to each other every single day. We support each other in everything we do and we never let anyone or anything negative infiltrate our organization" Says Jerome. Shadow Motion Pictures is synonymous with excellence, quality of people and product and we always push the envelope with our films. We are bringing the action back to lights, camera!!



**A**n Actress, Model, international pitch person and voice talent. Monyque Thompson Scott is also the wife of international action director R.L. Scott, and partner in Shadow Motion Pictures. She was born in Saginaw MI, and is often described as a phenomenal talent, and natural. Monyque attributes her success to God, her tenacious drive, fearlessness, creativity, and positivity. Her dedication to the craft demands applause.

Mrs. Scott has completed over 30 movies, several industrials, various commercials and print ads. A Levin Children's Hospital campaign, a Quicken Pay Loans national ad, a PSA for League of Women Voters, and a lead in the feature film Losing Ground. "As an artist, it is my goal to make brilliant character choices, while delivering energetic renditions that simultaneously demonstrate my extreme love for life, and my great emotional availability". To get the full scoop on this Diva in the Making, and peruse her performance reels visit [www.monyque.com](http://www.monyque.com).



**T**errance Parham was born in Los Angeles, CA. and raised in Decatur, GA. He started acting while in college and has also trained at the Alliance Theatre. Terrance has done industrials, commercials and print as well as several films such as Losing Ground, Carnival, Black Panther and the hit film Champion Road and Domestic Silence which is currently filming. More info on Terrance can found at [www.myspace.com/terranceparham](http://www.myspace.com/terranceparham).

He is getting in gear to start filming "Shift", written and directed by R.L. Scott and is part of the multi-talented, ground breaking production company "Shadow Motion Pictures."

Read the personal Bio's of the owners of *Shadow Motion Pictures*

**B**orn in America, raised in Salvador Da Bahia (Brazil) the half Brazilian-half African American writer, director and fight choreographer **R.L. Scott** began his martial arts training in Chinese Wushu at the age of eight and filmmaking at the age of 16. He studied film production for two years and then began working on major motion pictures as well as producing his own action films.



In 2007, he married star actress Monyque Thompson Scott and since then has produced several action films... one that made the Feb. 07 issue of Playstation magazine. He has just finished producing the feature film "Champion Road", and is in production on the action film "Shift". Find out more about action director R.L. Scott at his website [www.rlscottonline.com](http://www.rlscottonline.com)

**A** Baltimore native, Jerome "Ro" Brooks has been an entertainer since he was a child. From that point on he knew he wanted to be an actor. His most recognizable work was Charm City, HBO'S The Wire, The Corner and Homicide along with several music videos such as Syleena Johnson's "Guess What", Lil Mo's "Gangsta", 50 Cent's "Wangsta", Shyne's "Bonnie & Shyne", Jill Scott's "A Long Walk" and "Put On" by Young Jeezy.

Be on the look out for him in new feature films scheduled to be released later this year and early next year.

Transformers 2, Champion Road, Shift, and Slums 13. As of February 2008, Jerome also became a proud partner/CEO of Shadow Motion Pictures. Learn more about Jerome Ro Brooks at [www.jeromerobrooksonline.com](http://www.jeromerobrooksonline.com)

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## What the lost of Clayton County's School Accreditations mean to all of us!

By Lisa Cunningham



Atlanta, GA

Lisa Cunningham

As a Real Estate Broker in Atlanta the lost of the Clayton County Schools Accreditation was very bad news. My immediate reaction was one of shock. My second reaction was one of sheer anger. How could this happen, I asked myself and anyone else who I could talk to at that time. Everyone I spoke to had the same feeling of anger no matter where they lived. This is obviously not just a Clayton County issue. This is all of our issue. What is happening to our school system? Clayton County School System is the first school system in the country to lose its accreditation in forty years. I have heard of awful schools all over the country but never have I heard any of them losing their accreditation.

Even though as a parent and a person who grew up in Georgia this was awful, as a realtor I could think of the potential buyers who would be looking for homes in other counties. Making money wasn't enough to make me feel any better about the lost of their accreditation. I could only think of the seniors who had to not only worry about their grades, their SAT and all the other things of just being a senior. Seniors should not have to deal with accreditation issues.

This should be the best year of their

high school years. What do they do? Should they transfer to a new school? Should they stay and only be able to go to college in Georgia. I wish I knew the answers. The other question is what happens if they lose their accreditation permanently? Does that mean there will be a mass exodus out of Clayton County? If so, how will this affect the other school systems around the state that are already under funded and strained? What will this do to the real estate market in Clayton County that is already dismal at best? If the real estate market in Clayton County drops even more then that will unquestionably flow over to the other surrounding counties.

I think there are more questions now than answers and I wish I could blink twice and make all their troubles go away. What I do know is the rise or fall of the Clayton County School District is not just up to the school board or the superintendent. This is going to take the efforts of all the elected officials includ-

ing the county commissioners. I also want to plead to the parents of all 52,000 students of all 59 schools in Clayton County, which by the way is mostly African American. This is not the time to sit by and wait for someone else to fix your problem. If you are a parent and you haven't been involved in your child's school then this is a wake up call.

You must take back your schools. You must really know who you are putting on this new board. You must understand that your involvement is critical. I would also like to see the NAACP get involved since the majority of students are African American. Where are our churches during this crisis? There are all sort of organizations that could be contacted in Clayton County or surrounding Counties. Remember we are all in this together. This is our legacy and we have to take this very seriously. We can turn this around but it will take all of us. This does not have to be the end to this story.



EGC Foundation is a faith-based, not for profit foundation developed in 1998 to provide mentoring, spiritual guidance, funding for youth activities while bringing the community together to support the future of our youth.

Empowering God's Children Foundation, Inc.



Empowering today, Leaders of tomorrow,  
by the Grace of God and the support of  
the community.

To learn more visit us at:

[www.egc4godskids.org](http://www.egc4godskids.org)  
614.419.9901

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Marianne Morton

## Have Money, Will Travel....

By Marianne Morton

sites full of uncommon experiences for my brother and me. So, traveling, you might say, is in my blood. I, in turn, instilled the same fever for traveling in my children.

GTI has been in business for 14 years and has a proven track record for providing industry competitive travel. With GTI, I found a compensation plan like no other. Upon joining their company, and to my amazement, GTI had my personal travel web site up and running within five minutes. I have an agent-only web site also and GTI maintains both sites for me exclusively.

No experience is necessary! I found no selling was required on my part. I simply shared what GTI has to offer to people I meet or already know and I send their contact information to GTI. GTI, in turn, contacts my referrals and secures the membership for me. The best part of this process is the cash bonus I receive each time a GTI staff member signs one of my referrals. How easy is that?

September 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008, GTI is promoting its "Fall

into Cash" program. Any new member who signs up and brings in additional referrals earns bonus cash and with five referrals who join, GTI will pay you \$1000 and give you a FLY FREE certificate. Guess what? You just send or call in your referrals names and GTI will sell them for you.

Refer 1 Agent = Earn \$125  
 Refer 2 Agents = Earn \$300  
 Refer 3 Agents = Earn \$500  
 Refer 4 Agents = Earn \$750  
 Refer 5 Agents = Earn \$1000 + Fly FREE Certificate

Really, how cool is that?

But the money doesn't stop there. Each time I book travel, my family books travel, my friends book travel, acquaintances book travel, or people I don't even know book travel on my travel web site, GTI pays me travel commissions up to 90%. But the money doesn't stop their either. Every time someone signs as a member of my team and they acquire travel commissions from travel bookings to their web site regardless of who books, I earn 10% commission on all of their travel commissions too. Tell me where you can beat that! But the money doesn't stop there either! Each year when my team members renew their membership I get a commission. All the while I am earning free travel, making new friends, and gaining multiple tax benefits!

There is no way to capture the multiple sources of income and benefits (health insurance and a free prescription card to over 55,000 pharmacies) this company provides its travel representatives. Don't take my word for it. Check it out for yourself.

Call Crystal at GTI at (866) 756-2657 and give her PIN number: 4012315 for more information, to start earning easy money, and to enjoy great travel savings. Crystal is available Monday - Friday - 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (ET) or go to: [www.Bargains4Travel.GlobalTravel.com](http://www.Bargains4Travel.GlobalTravel.com) and click the Independent Representative section. Here's hoping to see you on the GTI team!

Some time ago, I was searching for supplemental financial relief to address the rising costs at the pump, inevitable price increases of groceries, and the continual utility rate hikes that consistently tap out my regular income. I explored the world of travel consulting and perhaps an end to a means of my financial objectives. With considerable research I discovered Global Travel International (GTI).

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