WASHINGTON (AP) - Democrat Barack Obama, running a presidential campaign that's raising money at a record clip, has won the endorsement of a widely admired Republican and former member of President George W. Bush's Cabinet.

Just hours after Obama's campaign disclosed Sunday it brought in $150 million in September - obliterating the old record of $66 million it had set only one month earlier - Gen. Colin Powell, Bush's former Secretary of State and a retired four-star general, went on "Meet the Press" to say he endorsing Senator Barack Obama.

"I think we need a transformational figure. I think we need a president who is a generational change and that's why I'm supporting Barack Obama, not out of any lack of respect or admiration for Senator John McCain," said Powell, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"I have been honored to have the benefit of his wisdom and counsel from time to time over the last few years, but today, I am beyond honored and deeply humbled to have the support of General Colin Powell," Obama said.

Powell was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under Presidents George H.W. Bush and Clinton.
Where Does The Money Go?

The money given to the United Way of Central Iowa’s Donor Choice program is under examination. Why, because we need to know where the money goes and how it’s used, what’s the purpose of the program? When a director of a small non-profit has a donor or potential donors contribute to the United Way’s program those dollars get sucked up into the abyss of the giant organization—United Way.

For example say someone wants to donate $300 to a small non-profit agency but they choose to give the money to the Donor Choice Program thinking that they are helping the small organization. Here is where the shell game begins: The money goes in and the United Way charges a 10.70% fee for processing the $300 contribution, then that money gets deposited into the bank accounts of the United Way. Several weeks and months go by and then the small struggling non-profit gets three installment payments for $60 and some change until the small non-profit gets its donated money, a fraction of the $300.

The giant United Way of Central Iowa makes money in this scheme in two ways: one—the fees charged for the admin of the $300. Two—the bank account pays interest on the monies donors contribute, and the United Way gets the use of the funds for a period of time—the whole $300, and the small non-profit gets the short end. The donor only gets to write off the $300 contribution not the money made on the interest or the money taken for admin.

Since donors can’t get those deductions we should at least be able to get credit for two contributions, one to the United Way and the other to the small struggling non-profit.

Maybe the biggest harm to the small struggling non-profit is this - the information of who’s making contributions to the small non-profit. This is valuable information and the United Way can begin to market to the donors of the small struggling non-profit and the other to the small struggling non-profit.

The giant United Way should be working on building the capacity of the same agencies consistently raise $20 plus million dollars per yearly fundraising campaign then they should not have to further fleece the non-profits and put an unnecessary stranglehold on much needed funding.

Small non-profit. This is valuable information and the United Way can begin to market to the donors of the small struggling non-profit. This is valuable information and the United Way can begin to market to the donors of the small struggling non-profit.

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The giant United Way should be working on building the capacity of the same agencies consistently raise $20 plus million dollars per yearly fundraising campaign then they should not have to further fleece the non-profits and put an unnecessary stranglehold on much needed funding.

Where does our money go? Ask.

Oh—by the way I would like to thank you Margo for your editorial. Thanks as we move toward OUR change.

Moving toward change ………………….JB

From The Pen of…. JB

October 27, 2008

Iowa Civil Rights Commission

Working Toward A State Free of Discrimination

Enforcement of Civil Rights Laws
Education and Training for Groups, Individuals and Organizations

Raising the Profile of Civil Rights and Diversity

For more information, or questions, or concerns, please contact us at: 400 E. 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515-281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416

Iowa Bystander • Page 2

Professionals Convene For Summit On Girls In The Juvenile Justice System

What are juvenile delinquency trends among females nationally and in Iowa? What is the profile of females in our institution? What can be done at the policy level to diminish the number of females involved in our juvenile justice system?

These and other questions will be answered at The Girls Summit: Status of Females in the Juvenile Justice System, October 29th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the State Historical Building, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines, IA.

The 2008 Girls’ Summit will emphasize broad spectrum solutions and will examine progress made and challenges yet to be faced.

National presenter, Dr. Meda Chesney-Lind (pictured), Professor of Women’s Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa will provide a national perspective on young women in the juvenile justice system with an emphasis on violence. Nationally recognized for her work on women and crime, her books include Girls, Delinquency and Juvenile Justice, The Female Offender: Girls, Women and Crime; Female Gangs in America, Invisible Punishment, and Girls, Women and Crime, published in 2004. She has just finished a book on trends in girls’ violence, entitled Beyond Bad Girls: Gender, Violence and Hype.

Iowa presenters include Deb Hans, Superintendent of the Iowa Juvenile Home; Robin Bagby, Associate Warden-Treatment, Iowa Correctional Institution for Women; Kile Beiniser, Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning and Kathy Nestely, Division on the Status of Women.

For information on how to vote November 4th in Polk County go to: http://auditor.co.polk.ia.us/ and click on the General Election Website link, visit the Polk County Election Office at 120 2nd Avenue Suite A in Des Moines or call 515-286-3247. You may also email Polk County Auditor Jamie Fitzgerald at: Election@co.polk.ia.us

For information on how to vote November 4th in Polk County go to: http://auditor.co.polk.ia.us/ and click on the General Election Website link, visit the Polk County Election Office at 120 2nd Avenue Suite A in Des Moines or call 515-286-3247. You may also email Polk County Auditor Jamie Fitzgerald at: Election@co.polk.ia.us

The Bridgestone Firestone Agricultural Tire Plant in Des Moines, Iowa is one of the largest manufacturing corporations in Iowa. We employ over 1,500 teammates and offer excellent career opportunities. Bridgestone Firestone offers a competitive benefits package, development opportunities, tuition reimbursement program, and leadership and technical training.

If you are interested in applying for a position with Bridgestone Firestone, you can apply several different ways:

• On line at www.firestoneag.com
• FAXing your resume to: 515-235-4079
• By contacting your local Iowa Workforce Development Office
• Send a copy of your resume to:

Firestone Agricultural Tire
ATTN: Salary Human Resources
4600 N.W. 2nd Ave
Des Moines, Ia. 50306

Note: If you are sending your resume by fax or by mail, please include the position for which you are applying. Positions are listed online and at the Iowa Workforce Development offices.

“Bridgestone Americas Holding is an Equal Opportunity Employer.”

Bridgestone Firestone is a Drug Free Workplace and requires a pre-employment drug screen, physical, and background check.
Alliance Offers Halloween Tips

Halloween can bring out the sweet-toothed monster in all of us! Consider these tips to keep your ghosts and goblins a little healthier along the way:

• Feed ‘em First. Make sure your kids are fueled up before they go trick-or-treating with a healthy snack or meal, so they don’t dip into their treats.
• Pillow Cases are for Pillows. Give the kids smaller treat bags like recycled grocery bags so they won’t bring home too many sweets, and keep the pillow cases and trash bags at home!
• Surprise ‘em with Health, not Horror. Be the healthy house on the block by offering treats like pre-packaged snack-sized dried fruit, pretzels, or baby carrots.
• Give ‘em Treasures for Treats. Hand out boxes of crayons, stickers, colored pencils, erasers, Halloween tattoos (the removable kind!), or rubber spiders!
• Patrol Those Treats. After inspecting all treats to make sure they’re safe, remind the kids to eat their treats in moderation, so they last longer (wink, wink). Store the bag in a high but public place so you won’t be tempted to snack on the candy either!

The William J. Clinton Foundation and the American Heart Association partnered in May of 2005 to create a new generation of healthy Americans by addressing one of the nation’s leading public health threats — childhood obesity. The goal of the Alliance is to reduce the nationwide prevalence of childhood obesity by 2015, and to empower kids nationwide to make healthy lifestyle choices. The Alliance is having a positive impact on the places that make a difference to a child’s health: homes; schools; restaurants; doctor’s offices; and the community.

For more information about the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, please visit www.HealthierGeneration.org.

What’s Going On?

By Robert V. Morris

I asked him “will you come with us on this mission?” He responded, “yes,” and I knew his endorsement was golden.

I am referring to my 1999 recruitment of Gen. Colin Powell to my Fort Des Moines project. A man of his stature, the only political figure in American history to garner a 60% plus approval rating from whites and blacks, was vital for our project and his endorsement of democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama will have the same incredible effect.

My history with Gen Powell began in 1997 when I requested he write a forward for my book Tradition and Valor: A Family Journey (Sunflower Press 1999), about my grandfather and father’s great military history, for which he kindly and personally responded that he was under contract for his book and therefore could not do it.

So when I met him at Veteran’s Auditorium that day, access courtesy of Iowa Governor Terry Branstad and businessman Gary Kirke, he already knew of my family history and the memorial I was planning to honor my grandfather’s first black officer class at Fort Des Moines in 1917.

We knew at Fort Des Moines that securing federal funds was critical to our $10 million project goal and after being refused by several key politicians, democratic Sen. Tom Harkin agreed to sponsor an earmark of $2 million toward our goal and I testified before a Senate defense subcommittee that had no history of funding projects such as ours. With Sen. Harkin backing the earmark and Gen. Powell lobbying the Republican side, we were not only successful that year but went back twice more securing a total of $8.5 million and the Fort Des Moines Memorial Park was born.

As for Sen. Obama, Gen. Powell’s endorsement offers immediate credibility to his foreign policy and defense skills which have been key attack points for his rival Sen. John McCain who counters that other former Secretary’s of State support him. The problem is, no one cares about those people and younger voters don’t even know who they are. Gen. Powell also assailed McCain’s smear tactics against Obama and choice of “bimbo” Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate.

Sen. McCain is a rat on a sinking ship and Gov. Palin is only pulling him farther beneath the water. Racist whites better get used to the idea that our next Commander in Chief is going to be a black man. Obama is one of the most brilliant individuals I have ever seen and put him in my group of most admired along with my grandfather and father and Gen. Powell. Not only does Gen. Powell resemble my late father, James “Braddie” Powell, Jr., but they were both “bad ass” army combat officers who backed up their words with action and took seconds from no man. I am proud to call him a friend.

In sports, the Iowa football team is kicking butt while Iowa State sinks further into the mud. Our metro football teams have all been wiped out again by the suburbanites who don’t have to deal with the socio-economic and academic problems we do. My NFL Dallas Cowboys have hit the ground with key injuries and Super Bowl hopes fading fast and our regional teams, the Bears, Vikings, Packers and Chiefs are all mediocre at best.

As we near the holidays, please keep in mind that the economy is bad and people are hurting so try to be more patient and compassionate with your neighbors. Life isn’t much fun when the money is short and the spiraling poverty and divorce rates are indications we are in trouble with no end in site.

Hopefully, the new year will bring a black President, a stabilized economy and an end to war in Iraq with a regenerated optimism for our future as Americans.

Columnist Robert V. Morris can be reached at RM0058@aol.com.

Subscribe today to the Iowa Bystander.

“...that we may direct their power toward good ends.”
-- Mary McLeod Bethune

When we were diagnosed with cancer I had so many questions, then I called the American Cancer Society. I would not have imagined they offered so much information and help.

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Des Moines Middle School Students Enjoy Summer Journalism Academy

Each summer for two weeks, Des Moines middle school students get the opportunity to participate in the Des Moines Summer Journalism Academy, a workshop offered at no cost to students. The only requirement to participate is an interest in writing and reporting.

Sixth through eighth graders from eight Des Moines schools have attended the Des Moines Summer Journalism Academy each year since it was formed in 2002. Approximately 30 students participate every year. The workshop is funded through a grant from the Center for Diversity and Enrichment at the University of Iowa and a partnership with Harding Full-Service Community School.

The goal of the summer academy, led by North High School journalism instructor Lisa Kritchman, is to provide students a link between middle school, high school and college. Each child is assigned to a small group of four that is taught by one high school leader. The students take field trips and report on their experiences. Field trips last summer included trying yoga at the University of Iowa and watching Moss Iowa demonstrate her baton skills.

“Students have such a blast on the field trips that they’re eager to write about their experiences,” said Kritchman. “I’ve never heard one complaint about coming to school in the summer.”

Participants of the Des Moines Summer Journalism Academy have recently created a web site showcasing their work. It can be viewed at http://myteacherpages.com/webpages/LKritchman.

Senate Chair Comments On Investigation

Statement from Senator Tom Courtney, Chair of the Senate’s Government Oversight Committee, on Attorney General’s investigation of Iowa Student Aid

“Last year, The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee looked into the lending and marketing practices of Iowa Student Loan. The Oversight Committee held meetings October 29-30, 2007. After the committee hearings, the Legislature asked the Governor and Attorney General to look into the practices of Iowa Student Loan. Today, Governor Culver released the results of a year-long investigation by the Attorney General.

“The Legislature plays an important role in helping Iowa students and their families plan for and afford a post-secondary education. We have increased funding at Community Colleges and our Regent universities and have increased the Iowa Tuition Grant, which helps Iowa students to attend the private colleges in our state. Another important part of providing access to higher education is a strong secondary loan market that offers private loans to students and families and helps bridge the gap between financial aid and the cost of attending school.

“Iowa Student Loan has helped families and students get the resources they need to pay for a college education. However, the report identifies disturbing trends and practices by Iowa Student Loan and some educational institutions in Iowa that are not in the best interest of many student borrowers and their parents.

“The Legislature spoke with a bipartisan voice when we demanded that Iowa Student Loan provide students with the lowest cost options to attend the college of their choice. HF 2690, which passed last session, addressed a number of concerns that this oversight investigation reveals. When you give your vote don’t give it lightly. You have a responsibility to yourself. Don’t give your vote to someone who calls you, knocks on your door, send you literature, speaks at forums, at your churches, and blasts you with information during the campaign but doesn’t contact you again until the next time they want your vote. They didn’t keep their promises. Your taxes continued to go up. You got nothing! You didn’t get new housing. You didn’t get nice smooth streets like other neighborhoods. Your schools don’t get the same care like other schools do...and the list goes on and on.

Remember the next time you come up for election. Taxation without representation is dead! Remember, if you don’t vote you don’t count.

-Nelle

On October 10th, eight years after the murder of Charles Lovelady Grafflin’s, the night club on Merrill Hay Road where the tragedy took place, was demolished.

YOU’RE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN TO READ
Want to be a better reader, a better speller? Call the Drake Adult Literacy Center, 271-3982. Sign up for free one-to-one help, days and nights. Reading, spelling tutoring for adults.

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Diabetes screening and education
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Urine Drugs of Abuse testing
Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

The Truth About Acorn
It’s been both fascinating and disturbing to watch the radical right demonize ACORN over allegations of voter fraud, especially since Democrats (and for that matter, democracy) were the big losers to voter suppression in 2000 (Florida) and 2004 (Ohio).

I first learned of ACORN in 1987, when I personally encountered the difficulties low-income people face trying to purchase a home. Thanks to the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and a partnership between ACORN and Norwest Bank, my family was able to arrange the financing we needed to buy an inexpensive fixer-upper in Des Moines’ inner city. Without ACORN, it might never have happened.

Now, thanks to the Republican Party’s latest voter suppression effort, ACORN has become a household name. Yet in many of those houses (some which would be boarded up if not for the CRA), ACORN is wrongly regarded with disfavor.

Let’s get the truth out. Please share this video and pass it along to others. Just go to the following link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDnEgMPv9yQ

Thanks!
Ed Fallon
Elpis Fellowship — Weekly Meditation

Only Believe


“Jesus said, what is impossible with men is possible with God”

There is a hymn that says “Only believe, only believe; all things are possible, only believe”. As a child at my home church, this song was sung often by one of our choir members, Mother Luvenia Jones. In my youth, I used to love to hear her sing it, but what I didn’t know was the song was referencing a bible verse. “And Jesus replied, what is impossible with men is possible with God”. However, we did know the challenges of the song, and how difficult it is, at times, to believe “all things are possible”. Truly, we want to have the faith and confidence “that all things work together for good”, but honestly that is not always the case. But in order to believe in the impossible, we must first believe in God, who can do the impossible (Luke 1:37).

God has a proven track record of “doing the impossible”. He opened the Red Sea for numerous people to cross (Exodus 14). He delivered three Hebrews boys from an extremely hot fiery furnace (Daniel 3). He fulfilled a dream and a prophecy of a shepherd boy and made him King (2 Samuel 5). God placed eternal life. Jesus, into the tomb of a young Hebrew virgin without the assistance of man (Luke 1); and He resurrected His Son, after his brutal death on the cross (Matthew 28). God has done some awesome, amazing and impossible things, and they should be our inspiration to believe in the impossible.

Like Jairus in Mark 5, he believed that God could do the impossible. A ruler of the synagogue and the father of a sick daughter, who was gravely ill…to the point of death, Jairus sought Jesus out so his daughter could be healed. However, before Jesus and the father were able to get to the house where his daughter laid, they were told “she died”. Interesting, the news of the daughter’s death did not change Jesus’ desire to heal her. As a matter of fact, He told the father “Be not afraid, ONLY BELIEVE”. In other words, “all things are possible if you only believe”!

New Normal: God is telling us the same thing, “Only Believe”. Regardless of your current reality and circumstances, engage in activating your faith by responding to the Word of God. Trust God beyond your analysis, insight, logic or your own understanding. Remember that we walk by faith and not by sight. Expect the impossible because with God all things are possible…ONLY BELIEVE!

Pastor Tammy • Elpis Fellowship
“Growing Together In The Things Of God”
Breakfast Club 40th Anniversary Says Something…Thank You and If Only

We all know that 40 is a number of biblical proportions! The rain upon Noah and his ark lasted 40 days and 40 nights. Moses and the Israelites wandered 40 years in the wilderness. Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the desert. The number 40 seems to be a clue that something important is happening.

In the momentous year of 1968 the local Black Panthers organization challenged the congregation at Trinity United Methodist Church in Des Moines to begin serving breakfast to neighborhood children before they went to school.

This year is commemorating 40 years of the Breakfast Club!

On Saturday, November 1st at 6:00 p.m. Children and Family Urban Ministries will host “Breakfast for Dinner” commemorating 40 years of the Breakfast Club and its service to children in central city of Des Moines. The event will be held at the Valley United Methodist Church, 4201 Ashworth Road, in West Des Moines.

For forty years nurture and nutrition, kindness and community, welcome has been offered to children in the neighborhood. On the one hand it is an occasion to say thank you to the countless servants who have gotten up early—day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year to meet the need in this place. On the other hand, we lament that after 40 years the same need exists in this place; it is an occasion to say, if only such a need would come to an end one day. Something important is happening.

One way for congregations to help to mark this 40th year is to host a breakfast, the dream is for 40 congregations to host 40 breakfasts to raise $40,000. Half of the proceeds would go to keep CFUM programs—the Breakfast Club and beyond—going. Half would go into an educational fund that would help make higher education available to CFUM participants. Support for such events are available through the planning committee and the CFUM office.

On Saturday, November 1, 6:00 p.m. at Valley United Methodist Church the Official Breakfast Club Commemorative Event will be held:

- Breakfast will be served!
- Stories will be told!
- Thanks will be given!
- Dreams will be dreamed!
- The past 40 years will be honored!
- The next 40 years will beckon!

Make your reservations NOW for the event that will mark this milestone!

There will be no cost to the event. But reservations are required as space is limited. Contact Tricia Vogt at tricia@cfum.org or 282.3242 to make your reservation.

The 40th Anniversary Planning Team welcomes information about the Breakfast Club. If you know a story, a former participant or volunteer, please let them know. The Planning Team is Sandy Drescher and Kathy Winter, co-chairs; Sandy Allen, Kristin Maahs, Patty McKee, Martha Squires, Tom Tuttle, Karen Winterbottom, and Carmen Lampe Zeitler. Contact Sandy Drescher at sandydrescher@mac.com or Carmen Lampe Zeitler at carmen@cfum.org or 282.3242.

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Iowa Bystander • Page 6
October 27, 2008

Child Health Clinic

Corinthian Baptist Church
9th & Freeway
3rd Tuesday of Every Month
4:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Immunizations
Physical Assessments

Co-Sponsored by:
Iowa Methodist Medical Center
Iowa Department of Public Health
Corinthian Baptist Church

Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God.
--Mark 10:14
Des Moines Playhouse Presents
Hollywood Halloween 2008

The Des Moines Playhouse announces the return of Des Moines’ premiere costume party, Hollywood Halloween, being held this year on October 31. Hollywood Halloween 2008 will be held 6:00 P.M. to midnight, Friday, Oct. 31, at Forte Banquet & Conference Center, 615 Third St. in downtown Des Moines. Tickets are $150 per person, $1,500 for a table of 10, and may be purchased online at www.dmplayhouse.com or by calling The Playhouse at 515-277-6261.  All proceeds benefit the children’s theatre and educational programs of The Playhouse. New this year is complimentary parking provided by Keck Parking.

In its sixth year, Hollywood Halloween is an extraordinary evening filled with ghoulish costumes, dancing, and theatrical performances by Playhouse performers. Dinner will be served at Hollywood film- and Broadway show-themed tables from some of the area’s top designers. Dancing to the music of Freestyle will follow dinner entertainment and live auction. The auction features nearly 20 packages including fine art and jewelry, food and wine, and weekend get-aways. Sticks has created a one-of-a-kind Wizard of Oz-themed game table, featuring chess, backgammon, and cribbage, for the live auction.


DSM Playhouse Presents
Night Of The Living Dead

Fall nights at the Des Moines Playhouse are going to be terrifyingly funny! “Night of the Living Dead” comes to the theater, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Tickets are now on sale by calling Melissa Chavas, the show’s director, at 515-779-7012. Tickets are $55 in advance, and $65 at the door.

Get ready for a fright that will send chills down your spine! In “Night of the Living Dead,” fallout from a satellite probe shot to Venus returns to Earth carrying a mysterious radiation that transforms the unburied dead into flesh-eating zombies. Seven people trapped in an isolated farmhouse, held hostage by the ravenous ghouls, begin to turn on each other as the dead encroach. Based on the cult classic film, this blend of thrilling horror laced with touches of black humor envelops the audience in the action and unfolds into a shocking theatrical ending.

“Night of the Living Dead” originated as a summer 2008 theatre class for teens. Students, working alongside Playhouse educators, designed and created the whole production, including lights, special effects makeup, sound, set, and props. The Playhouse education program is one of the most extensive of any community theatre in the United States, directly serving more than 30,000 students each year with performances, on-site classes and outreach programs. This Halloween weekend performance is a fundraiser benefiting youth education programs at the Playhouse.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever Auditions At Playhouse

Auditions for “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” will be held at The Des Moines Playhouse at 6:00 PM, Sunday, Nov. 2. All auditions are open to the public.

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” contains feature roles for 2 men and 2 women, ages 16 and up: 5 boys, ages 8-16; and 5 girls, ages 8-16. There are also roles for a large ensemble of men, women, boys and girls.

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” performances are Dec. 12-21. School matinees are Dec. 10-11. The show is directed by Rusk Dorsett and Brandon Lee, with music direction by Robin Spahr.

The Herdman is the worst kids in the history of the world. They lie, steal and smoke cigars (even the girls). When they take over the church play, everyone wonders if this will be the best Christmas pageant ever, or just he most memorable.

Playhouse Presents “Escanaba In Da Moonlight”

Tall tales and laughter await audiences at The Des Moines Playhouse! “Escanaba in Da Moonlight,” a new comedy by Jeff Daniels of “Dumb and Dumber,” will be presented in the Mainstage theatre, Nov. 7-23. Tickets are now on sale at The Playhouse ticket office, by phone at 515-277-6261, and online at dmplayhouse.com. Tickets are $35-20.

“Escanaba in Da Moonlight,” a hilarious new comedy, will have audiences holding their sides with laughter! When the Soady clan reunites for the opening day of deer season at their Upper Peninsula, Michigan, camp, 35-year-old Reuben Soady carries the infamous reputation of being the oldest Soady in history never to bag a buck. In a hunting story to beat all hunting stories, “Escanaba” is an uproarious comedy where the quest to hunt, drink a few beers, and tell each other stories is interrupted by an uproarious tall tale.

The “Escanaba in Da Moonlight” cast, under the direction of Ron Ziegler (“Grease”) features Micheal Davenport (“Enchanted April”) as Reuben Soady. Other cast members include Eric Bench, Cody Schug, John Cisar, Jason Thomas Rainwater, and Megan Walz.


The Principal Financial Group Pledges To Help Disabled Students In Workplace

Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) announced that the U.S. Department of Treasury had awarded $110 million in tax credits to Iowa-based organizations investing in rural and urban low-income communities. The awards were made under the 2008 round of the New Markets Tax Credit Program (NMTC). A large share of these funds will go to assist Iowa businesses. And, there are other grantees for which Iowa based business operations will be eligible.

"Aiding Iowa businesses with tax credits will increase economic development of Iowa communities in myriad ways – everything from helping alternative energy production to rehabilitating projects in the construction sector," said Harkin. "I cannot think of a more timely announcement for our state."

Rural Development Partners LLC of Mason City – $60,000,000 – to provide loans and equity investments for agribusinesses, commercial forestry operations, and alternative energy companies within distressed rural communities. RDP will serve a 50 state service territory with investment emphasis on the underserved rural Midwestern and plains states, as well as distressed coastal forestry regions. RDP focuses on emerging businesses that are locally owned by rural low-income community residents and low-income community agricultural producers. NMTCs will be used to provide equity investments for "gap financing" and for high risk start-up operations, and to materially reduce interest rates on debt financing.

Iowa Community Development LC of Johnston – $50,000,000 – to provide debt-financing products combined with forgivable loan products to businesses throughout Iowa for construction and rehabilitation projects, building acquisition, equipment purchases, operating and maintenance expenses, site development, and working capital. ICD will target projects sectors such as advanced manufacturing, life science, information technologies, retail, and value-added agriculture processing. The NMTC allocation will enable ICD to make loans at below market rates, eliminate origination fees, and offer longer than standard interest-only payment periods and longer amortizations.

The NMTC Program, established by Congress in December 2000, provides individual and corporate taxpayers with a credit against federal income taxes for making qualified equity investments in vehicles known as Community Development Entities (CDEs). Substantially all of the taxpayer’s investment must be used by the CDE to make qualified investments supporting certain business activities in low-income communities. More information on the NMTC program can be found at www.reachiowacity.com.

Harkin Announces More Than $23 Million In Emergency Transportation Funding For Iowa

Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) announced that Iowa is receiving a total of $23,948,071 in emergency relief funds from the Department of Transportation (DOT) for highway and bridge damage. These funds will be used to reimburse the Iowa Department of Transportation for repairs stemming from the recent floods and severe weather. The money was included in the recently passed disaster assistance package. Harkin is a senior member of the Senate panel that funds transportation projects.

"I am pleased that this emergency funding was quickly allocated, so Iowa can cover the costs of work already done," said Harkin. "Iowa has a lot highway needs, and these funds will allow additional work to be done improving Iowa’s roads and creating jobs in our state."

These funds will be used to repair or reconstruct highways and roads that have suffered serious damage as a result of a natural disaster.
ICCI Hosts Metro Candidate Forum

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (ICCI) held a Des Moines Metro Polk County Candidate Forum on Tuesday October 21st. Tyler Uetz was the Moderator of the event held at the Polk County Central Senior Citizen Center. Participants included Rep. Ako Abdul Samad House District 66 and his opponent Chris Moeller of the Green Party; Rep. Bruce Hunter of House District 62, Rep. Geri Huser of House District 42 and Eric Kohlsdorf, the Republican candidate for House District 61.

Each candidate was asked the following questions:

What is your position on counties having control over the construction or expansion of large-scale livestock confinement facilities as a method to improve water quality?

What is your position on instituting a living wage that ensures well-paying jobs in urban areas of Iowa?

In light of the current foreclosure and economic crisis what will you do to ensure metro area families and neighborhoods can obtain and sustain homeownership?

What is your position on prisoner rehabilitation/education and what would you do to help parolees back into their communities to reduce recidivism rate?

What is your position on public financing of political campaigns at a statewide level?

If elected what would you do to ensure all Iowans have access to quality, affordable healthcare?

Iowa Bystander Mission

The responsibility of the Black press is to empower the Black community through meaningful communication and leadership nurturing, and to keep the Black community informed of those issues most vital to us as a people.

Iowa Bystander

President, CEO & Publisher • Jerald Brantley, Sr.
Associate Publisher • Gaynelle Narcisse
Editor • Robert V. Morris
Photojournalist • Paul Smith

Guidelines For Submitting Copy:

Iowa Bystander is published weekly. Copy must be typed. Editorials, news items and press releases should be 600 words or less. Public service announcements, thank you notes, etc...should be 300 words or less. All copy is subject to the editorial policy of Iowa Bystander.

Pictures submitted with articles become the property of Iowa Bystander unless otherwise specified at the time of submission. All photos should clearly identify those in the picture, their order and the relevance of the photo.

Finally, all submitted copy or photos should contain a phone number and the name of the contact person who can be reached if questions arise.

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Advertise your jobline in Bystander!
From Senator Matt McCoy

Three keys to helping Iowa’s kids

Iowans have made it clear that they want Iowa to continue to be a great place to raise a family. Legislators have responded to the concerns you’ve raised by working together, taking action and following through on our commitments.

Education

You said you wanted improved student achievement in our local schools. That’s why we’re working to keep the best teachers in Iowa classrooms by raising teacher pay to the national average, a move praised by the nonpartisan Progressive States Network.

Other efforts to ensure educational excellence in Iowa include:
• Expanding access to quality preschool to every 4-year-old by 2016
• Giving teachers the training and tools they need to provide a rigorous and relevant 21st century education
• Improving the math and science performance of our students and preparing graduates for the jobs of the future
• Providing college-level training for high school students who are ready, regardless of geography, family income, or school district

A majority of Republican and Democratic senators approved these efforts to make our state a great place for Iowa kids because you said it’s important to you. I’ll continue to listen and to make sure we keep our commitments to Iowa’s priorities.

SPECIALIZED SERVICE PROVIDER ANNOUNCEMENT (RFP)

Spectrum Resources, a local non-profit agency and a #1 Rated Prisoner Reentry Program, is looking to recruit faith-based and community organizations to join the Beneficiary Choice Program Team as a Specialized Service Provider. Specialized Service Providers must be able to offer Job Readiness Training, career counseling and other supportive services. Program requires a follow-up for a minimum of six (6) months and direct services over a 12 month period to youth ages 18-29 released from a state of federal institution. (Other eligibility requirements are necessary). All participants are to be fully informed as to the nature and content of the services provided by these service providers; faith-integrated programs are welcome to apply.

This program is a performance based contract. Interested parties should contact the Beneficiary Choice Program Supervisor, Ericka N. Wiley and request an application (RFP). Deadline for all submissions is November 14, 2008.

Ericka N. Wiley, Spectrum Resources
1700 Keosauqua Way
Des Moines, Iowa 50314
515-298-1248 office
Ewiley.spectrum@yahoo.com

Cornerstone Family Church

3114 SW 61st Street
Des Moines, IA 50321
Phone: 515-243-2852
Business Office
Monday – Friday, 8:30-4:40
Church Office 515-243-2852 ext 75

Our Purpose

Helping ALL people find and live their lives for Christ, bridging ethnic, cultural and denominational lines.

Sundays

Worship at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Youth Elevate 9:30 a.m.
Real Life – Ministry for Singles 18-29
Each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Transportation to Sunday worship services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesdays

Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
SpirItLife 7:00 p.m.
One Youth 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays

Worship at 5:00 p.m.
Merge – Ministry for Singles over 30
2nd Saturday of each month 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Radio Ministry

Fri. 11:30 a.m. & Sun. 7:30 a.m. on Praise 940 AM
Website: www.cornerstonefamilychurch.org

News From The Senate

From Senator Jack Hatch

Raising awareness for homelessness

Over the past several years, I have been reporting on a variety of political issues. Today, I want to ask for your assistance on an issue that many of you don’t completely understand—homelessness. It is a complicated social and political concern.

I’ve agreed to raise money for youth homelessness in central Iowa by sleeping out on November 14 at Drake Stadium. All proceeds will benefit the Iowa Homeless Youth Centers, a community based program of Youth and Shelter Services, Inc. Last year, I raised $4,500 for the cause.

This sleepout is named for a homeless man, Reggie Kelsey, who was a constituent of mine. Reggie was forced to leave the state-sponsored foster care program at age 18. A few months later, he committed suicide.

As a result, the Legislature changed state law to allow 18- to 21-year-old foster care kids to remain in a transitional program that better prepares them to live independently. A second law, passed this year, guarantees a college education to any foster child who is still under the state’s supervision at age 18.

If you’d like to help raise awareness of homelessness in Iowa, you can join me at the sleepout. You can also make a contribution of any amount directly to the Iowa Homeless Youth Centers by going to their web site at www.reggiessleepout.org. Click “Sponsor Participant” on the menu at the left side of the page. Then just type in my name.

Thanks for your consideration.

Additional information

This is a legislative column by Senator Jack Hatch representing central Des Moines. Senator Hatch is an Assistant Democratic Leader and chair of the Health & Human Services Budget Subcommittee. He also serves on the Economic Growth, Human Resources, State Government, Labor & Business Relations, and Appropriations committees.

To contact Senator Hatch when the Legislature is not in session, call 515-244-2941. To e-mail Senator Hatch, write to jhatch@hatchdevelopment.com.
Church Listings & Weekly Schedules

**Burns United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Dr. Paul Dr. DeVance, JD, MDIV, Pastor  
811 Crocker Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Phone: Church 515-244-5883

**Church Schedule:**  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Corinthian Baptist Church**  
Rev. Dr. Lee Zachary Mazaey, Pastor  
814 School Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309-1207  
Phone: 515-243-4073

**Church Business Hours:** Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Chicken Ministry Days & Times**  
**Sundays:**  
- Worship at 8:00 a.m.  
- Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.  
- Music Ministry rehearsal  
- Praise Team rehearsal  
- Praise Team rehearsal  
- Training or Minister/Evangelist  
- New Membership Class  
- Men’s Ministry 1st & 3rd Saturday 6:00 p.m.

**Church Directory**  
**Burns United Methodist Church**  
Address: 811 Crocker Street  
DSM, IA 50309  
Phone: Church 515-244-5883

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Willy L. Maluta  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church**  
Address: 814 School Street  
DSM, IA 50309  
Phone: 515-243-4073

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lee Zachary Mazaey  
Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Church School: 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.  
Website: www.corinthianbaptistds.org

**New Friendship Church of God in Christ**  
Address: 1317 Forven Avenue  
DSM, IA 50314  
Phone: 515-243-7097

Pastor: Rev. R.L. Daye  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.

**King of Kings Missionary Baptist Church**  
Address: 619 S.E. 15th Street  
DSM, IA 50309

Phone: 515-282-3425

Pastor: Rev. Irvin Lewis, Sr.

Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

**Maple Street Missionary Baptist Church**  
Address: 1552 E. Maple Street  
DSM, IA 50316

Phone: 515-262-1931

Pastor: Rev. Keith A. Radifff, Sr.

Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

**Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
Rev. Marlon T. Perkins, Sr., Pastor  
1639 Garfield Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50316

Phone: 515-262-3802

Email: sdaphiladelphia@msn.com

**Church Schedule:**  
Sabbath (Saturday) Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
Sabbath School at 9:30 a.m.

“Showers of Blessing” Fellowship & Prayer Service 15 9:00 a.m.  
(Saturday)

Wednesday Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m.

**St. Paul A.M.E. Church**  
Rev. Frederick K. Gaddy, Pastor

1201 Day Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50314

Ministry Days & Times

**Saturdays:**  
- Men’s Fellowship and Bible Study 10:00am-12:00pm

**Sunday School:**  
- 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday Morning Worship:**  
- 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday Radio Ministry:**  
- 9:00 a.m., Praise 940 AM

Email Address: sdaphiladelphia@msn.com

**St. Paul A.M.E. Church**  
Address: 1201 Day Street  
DSM, IA 50309

Phone: 515-244-5883

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lee A. Thomas  
Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
1+1=CHANGE

We won’t know until it’s too late if there are enough votes for a change. In the end, every vote will be counted, and every vote brings us another step towards the change we need.
But it won’t come on its own, and we can’t afford more of the same.
Vote early for change, right now, or on Election Day.

CALL 1-877-420-8868 www.voteforchange.com

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