Burt Named Director Of Media & Marketing

The Greater Des Moines Partnership is pleased to announce Lauren Burt as the new Director of Media & Marketing for Economic Development.

Burt brings experience from both the public and private sectors. Previously serving as an Account Executive on the Iowa Department of Economic Development account at Integer Group, she promoted the Generation Iowa Commission and business development for Iowa. Prior to Integer Group, Burt was a staff member for Governor Chet Culver for nearly three years. Her experience in state government and public relations is invaluable as she starts her new role at the Partnership.

“I am thrilled to join the Greater Des Moines Partnership and aid the organization in the promotion and growth of our metro area,” said Lauren Burt. “I believe in the mission of the organization and I hope to enrich the initiatives of the economic development team.”

Lauren has a great deal of experience in promoting the metro area and state of Iowa and brings knowledge of public policy and community awareness that will be a key asset to the Greater Des Moines Partnership,” said Martha Willits, President and CEO.

The Partnership is the economic development organization serving Central Iowa, representing 250 investors and 4,400 local businesses. The Partnership was formed nearly a decade ago and continues its mission to make Greater Des Moines a better place to build a business, build a career and build a life.

AALC To Present Awards

On September 10th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. the African American Leadership Coalition invites the public to our “Community Commitment Award Celebration” honoring Lolo Jones (pictured), Christian Blake Meeks, John Paul Meeks and Charles Zanders, Jr. at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Iowa, Logan Club Site, 1740 E. Garfield in Des Moines.

For information contact JoAnn Hughes 515-208-2526.

Fort Des Moines To Celebrate Patriot Day

Patriot Day: Remembering 9/11 will take place on September 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fort Des Moines Museum. The speaker is Patrick Palmersew, Executive Director of the Iowa Department of Veteran Affairs. The North High School Jr. ROTC will present the colors. Music will be provided by the Hoover High School Band.

Two videos on 9/11 provided by the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York City will play in the Museum throughout the day. The event is free and open to the public.

For information call Michael Kates at 515-282-8060.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Lahood To Speak At 2009 Iowa Community Conference

Iowa Congressman Tom Latham is pleased to announce that U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood will take part in a panel discussion during the 2009 Iowa Community Conference.

The Iowa Community Conference, an annual meeting for local leaders sponsored by Congressman Latham, will cover a range of topics designed to strengthen communities across Iowa. Secretary LaHood will participate in a panel discussion on the opening day of the conference to discuss transportation policy and how local communities can work with the federal government to improve transportation.

“Secretary LaHood will offer the conference participants a wealth of expertise and insight into federal transportation issues, and I’m grateful that he’s agreed to attend,” Congressman Latham said. “The Iowa Community Conference is a great way to develop strategies to strengthen Iowa’s communities, and I invite local leaders to attend and take part in an informative and productive discussion.”

Conference participants will attend sessions on the federal appropriations process, preparation for the 2010 census, federal resources available for water and waste projects and implementing green technology in municipal utilities. Attendees must pay for their own lodging, but there is no charge to attend the conference.

The Iowa Community Conference has provided local leaders with valuable information and resources to improve their communities for more than 60 years, and Congressman Latham has sponsored the event since he was elected to Congress.

Congressman Latham’s office is accepting registrations for this year’s community conference, which will be held Sept. 15-16 in Washington, D.C. To register, contact Michele Mustain in Congressman Latham’s Ames office at (515) 232-2885. The registration form must be turned in by Sept. 4.

Fear God, Tell the Truth & Make Money • The Oldest Black Publication West of the Mississippi • Vol. 119 No. 35 • September 2, 2009

Iowa Black Business Summit Will “Peak” In September

Conference Targets New and Experienced Black Entrepreneurs

This September, the first annual Iowa Black Business Summit will be held in Des Moines, IA. The Iowa Department of Economic Development’s Targeted Small Business Program (TSB), Iowa Department of Human Rights (DHR) and Iowans for Social & Economic Development (ISED) are hosting the event on September 24th-25th, 2009.

This is the first conference of its kind for Iowa’s black business owners and will lay the foundation for their continued success and contributions to economic vitality of Iowa. The Summit is targeted to aspiring or experienced Black Iowa business owners, but all are welcome.

“Iowa’s Black business owners are an integral part of the economic vitality of our communities and the state as a whole,” said Iowa Department of Economic Development Director Mike Tramontina. “Whether you are opening a business or are an existing business owner, this conference will provide the tools to grow your business.”

Three organizations began planning for the Summit over a year and a half ago. “ISED Ventures is proud to partner with two State of Iowa agencies to present this very important conference”, said Debra A. Carr, Executive Director of the Iowans for Social and Economic Development. “We’re confident that by tapping into the knowledge and experience of some of Iowa’s most successful business owners and professionals, the Summit will address some of the barriers and needs Black business owners, in fact ALL business owners, face.”

The event’s keynote speaker is Black entrepreneur Michelle Hoskins, founder and owner of Michele Foods, Inc., a multimillion-dollar company that produces Honey Crime Syrup, Butter Pecan Syrup, and Maple Crime Syrup. The company’s products can currently be found in over 10,000 food stores nationwide. To finance the business in the early days, Michelle sold everything she owned and bottled syrup in her mother’s basement.

Hoskins has received several entrepreneur and business awards and has been featured on television, including multiple appearances on The Oprah Winfrey Show. She is also the author of “Sweeter Expectations”. More information on Michelle Hoskins: http://www.michelefoods.com/.

The workshops will be led by professionals in finance, business and marketing. Workshops will focus on topics such as:

• Sources for financing and landing a line of credit
• Doing business with the State of Iowa and landing Federal contracts
• Writing a winning business plan
• The marketing imperative
• Taking your business to the next level – what indicators to review

Special panel discussion with Iowa’s Black Legislators

Key speakers for the Iowa Black Business Summit include Wells Fargo and Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino. For more information and to register for the Iowa Black Business Summit, go to www.iowabbs.com or call 1-800-532-1215.

2009 Carl T. Rowan Pinnacle Award Winner

Letter To The Editor: The brutal, senseless, offensive “entertainment” photo of two men in a fight — huge and in living color — not only shocked me to see but also made me wonder is in charge of news judgment and how stories are played. A man pounding another man who’s on his back risking serious injury. Whom was this photo story supposed to enlighten or entertain or benefit? And on Page 2!!! You could have used any number of other stories and photos that appear in later pages.

Don’t take your cues from Fox news.

Jerry Szumski
Un-realized Power & Influence:

Sunday August 23rd an event took place at the Evelyn Davis park, and this event had a far reaching impact. I’m talking about the 2nd annual Community appreciation day and Barber shop Basketball Tournament®. Local businessmen, Sam Clay, Rob Presswood, Mike Stokes, Byron Muhammad, Keyon Patton along with Something good restaurant, and Spectrum Resources Have come together to bring a positive function to the urban community of Des Moines. With over 1000 men, women and children enjoying free food, fan and music plus outstanding basketball competition it was a beauty to behold.

The real victory is the realization of the collective power and influence these black business men have at their disposal, and see it manifested in a very positive event. I’m very proud of these young people and I applaud their effort. If I were running for office it would have been high on my agenda to make an active appearance at the park, handing out literature and pressing the flesh with potential voters. With no violence or bad publicity we got only media coverage from this publication, your Iowa Bystander.

We had no police presence and the need for such did not arise. This event is on pace to continue to grow and eventually will be one of the premier events of the summer in Des Moines. The real glory in all of this is that black men can work together and do some great things in their community.

In order for change to happen in our community we must take opportunities like this and build upon them, giving vision and hope to a hurting humanity. To use your own money just to say “thank you for being you” to our community is the best kind of advertisement any business could use.

Seeing all the kids playing, and the relationships being renewed and restored, people from our past that we’ve not seen in years coming back into view ……. what a great feeling.

When we cannot get the things we need such as entertainment that is culturally specific on a regular basis then we have to take it upon ourselves to make it happen, and with that said we can demand better service from the city and the county.

I’d like to say thank you to the owners of Platinum Kutz, Supreme Kutz, Imperial Kutz, and K- Kutz, for trying to bring a little togetherness to our community.

I look forward to next year’s event and it promises to be bigger and better, with an emphasis on growing every year, and together we can make it happen.

Change happened….Change Continues… Moving Toward Change … JB

Iowa Civil Rights Commission

Working Toward A State Free of Discrimination

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
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515-281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416
www.state.ia.us/government/crc

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.”
- Abraham Lincoln -

“You have to be taught to be second class, you certainly are not born that way.”
- Lena Horne
Polk County Health Department Announces Schedule For Flu Clinics

Polk County Health Department will also be holding community flu and Pneumonia clinics beginning October 1, 2009. Fifty-two clinics will be held at various locations throughout the county through November 7, 2009. The full schedule is attached and it is available at www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health. Terri Henkels, Polk County Health Department Director said, “We owe it to our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and everyone else in the community, to stay healthy, especially this flu season. Getting a flu shot is a simple and easy way to do it.”

When a high percentage of the community has been vaccinated against a contagious disease like influenza it is very difficult for it to be spread from person to person. But, in most years, less than one in three adults gets a flu shot. “Chances are most of the people we have contact with have not had a flu shot and we are exposed to their germs. People should also wash their hands frequently and thoroughy. They should stay home when they are sick,” said Ms. Henkels.

Many people use the term “flu” very casually and often confuse it with a variety of stomach viruses and symptoms like diarrhea and vomiting. Influenza is a very serious respiratory illness.

People who get influenza are at greater risk for catching pneumonia as well. With the additional risk of the H1N1 influenza spreading this year, more people are encouraged to get a pneumonia shot as well. Specifically:
- All adults 65 years of age and older
- Anyone ages 2-64 with long term health problems, has a disease or condition that lowers the body’s resistance to infection and/or is taking a drug or treatment that lowers the body’s resistance to infection

Elder Financial Abuse Costs Americans More Than 2.6 Billion Dollars Per Year

Iowa Congressman Tom Latham leads a discussion on elder financial abuse during the latest episode of the Congressional Report. Latham’s monthly television show that airs throughout Iowa and is available online.

Financial adviser Ric Edelman joins Latham to discuss how Americans can protect their elderly loved ones from becoming victims of fraud. The informative episode also features an in-depth discussion of why seniors often are the targets of financial exploitation.

“Seniors often find themselves alone more than at any other time in their lives, and that’s the opportunity for others to come into their lives and exploit them,” Edelman said during the program.

“Any adult 19 through 64 years of age who smokes or has asthma
Since a higher percentage of children get the flu, and because of how easily it can spread it to others, it is recommended that all children be vaccinated against flu. Older adults, and people with chronic health conditions (who are more likely to get sick and be sicker than other people) are encouraged to receive their shots sooner rather than later.

“Flu shots provide a higher level of protection for younger people than they do for older adults. To best protect your grandma, you and your children, should get a flu shot,” said Ms. Henkels.

To speed up the process, at the flu clinics, people can download the Consent Form from the Health Department Web Page (www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health) and bring the completed Consent Form to the Clinic.

On Saturday, October 10, 2009, from 10am-1pm, Polk County Health Department will offer a “drive through flu clinic” at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. This clinic will be for flu shots only (pneumonia shots will not be given). People attending this clinic (9 years of age and older) will receive their shots without leaving their vehicle.

Flu shots for seasonal influenza are now available, on a walk-in basis, at the Polk County Health Department, 1907 Carpenter, Des Moines, Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm. FluMist is also available at Polk County Health Department for people ages 2-49. For updates or changes in the clinic schedule call the Polk County FluLine, 286-3609. A $15 donation is suggested for the flu vaccination. $35 for pneumococcal. No one will be turned away because of inability to pay. Medicaid, Medicare Part B, Wellmark and Humana will pay for the cost in full. Bring your insurance, Medicare or Medicaid card.

I have health questions, who can answer them?
- The Polk County Health Department

109-Carpenter Avenue
Des Moines IA 50314

382-9000

For information about these and other health concerns call the Polk County Health Department. Our location and walk in hours make your visit convenient. Most of our services are free, all are confidential.

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“Elders often find themselves alone more than at any other time in their lives, and that’s the opportunity for others to come into their lives and exploit them,” Edelman said during the program.
Something To Think About

Your Birthday Verse

Are you aware that the Bible has a special verse for every one's birthday? No….well neither did I until I received this information via email. And being the doubter that I am, I had to verify this information to be true or not by looking up my very own birthdate.

Once I had accessed the website, I entered my date of birth, much to my satisfaction, there was a verse associated with my birthday.

The verse displayed was: “Matthew 6:26 NIV”

“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”

To find your Birthday Verse go to http://www.birthverse.com/mybirthverse.cfm

And always remember….You are a child of God, His treasured possession. He created you in His own image. He chose the day for you to be born. He has a plan and a purpose for your life. With that said, cherish your birthverse.

A Little Bit Of This And A Little Bit Of That

Do You Have Health Care?

All during the Presidential Campaign Barack Obama said, “Yes We Can”. The people liked that message. It’s kind of like “We the people of the United States”. That includes everybody! People were chanting the slogan all over America; it represented hope.

When people went to the polls and voted, I’m sure they were not voting just for a Black man, but they voted for the best qualified person for the President of the United States position.

One thing we knew for sure was, we can’t have one more year of George W. Bush. Under his Administration they were able to turn countries against the U.S., we had a horrible debt, the truth about the issues was distorted, we were in a war we shouldn’t be involved in gas was rising out of control, and we were at an all time low.

Where were the Republicans when all this destruction was going on? They knew! But who are they blaming for all the debts and etc.? You guessed it, President Barack Obama.

He was handed a real bad hand. I believe he’s doing a good job, considering he’s only been President a little over six months. Together, America working with him instead of against him, we can succeed. We will be a better America and everyone can have a piece of the pie!

McCain and Palin ran against Obama and they lost. It seems they don’t want to stop trying to defeat him. They would rather no one have health insurance than vote with the President.

People without health insurance are suffering and some people with plans that are not so good are also suffering. As someone said, how long, oh how long must the people suffer?

By Nelle
Back from Vacation

Not Always As They Seem

Behavior, I am told that a good working definition of behavior is: everything a dead man can’t do, that pretty much covers all bases. Can we agree that there are only two kinds of behavior, good and bad, nothing in between? One does not necessarily need to break the law to be behaving badly. It is entirely possible that by not doing our civic duty, it could be construed as bad behavior, we are all needed to successfully effect a change, if nothing changes, nothing changes. We have been taught to spend our free time playing video games, watching sports on television, playing on our cell phones, drinking lots of alcoholic beverages, and eating fast food, and some other things we have started doing in recent years. This was designed to keep us from taking a close look at what is going on in Washington.

As little as I ever hear it spoken of, things started to slide downhill when Reagan was elected back in the eighties. The problem was, the taxes of the well to do were cut, the rich would spend enough that the poor would have to work twice as hard to keep up. As someone said, how long, oh how long must the people suffer?

By R. L. Parkey, Sr.
Elpis Fellowship — Weekly Meditation

More Than Enough

Verse of Concentration: Ephesians 3:20

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us".

God has the power and the desire to bless His people in abundance (John 10:10); for only He has the power to bless all of mankind. Not only is He powerful enough, but He wants to bless us. He gives us spiritual nourishment; He equips us with everything we need for the journey; and He satisfies our needs and desires. God is sufficient for the needs of His people.

He gives us more than enough love…which He expects us to show the same love to others. When we are weak... He gives us more than enough strength (Psalm 28:7) to carry on our journey. God gives us more than enough mercy, fresh every day (Psalm 68:19), so who are we not to show that same mercy to our brothers and sisters, believers and unbelievers. Underserving as we are, He even gives us more than enough grace (1 Corinthians 3:10a) and then He says “walk in it”.

Nevertheless we understand the world around us, but we must know that God is sufficient enough to handle any problem or situation this world offers. All He is asking us to do is worship and obey Him. He wants to be first in our lives; the one who is the object of our affections; and revered with awe. When He speaks, He wants us to listen and do what He has asked or commanded of us. This is the least we could do for all that He has done and continues to do for us.

New Normal: God has shown us that He is more than enough and that He is sufficient to meet all of our needs. We just need to continue to open our hearts and ears to receive what He has for His people. And when He speaks, we need to obey immediately, without hesitation.

Michelle Harris • Elpis Fellowship

“Growing Together In The Things Of God”

“Seven Seals” For Your Spiritual Diet

By Carolyn Clinton King C., Th.D

Welcome back dear heart, as we are looking briefly into Chapter 7 of Revelation, Matthew Henry explains “The things contained in this chapter came in after the opening of the six seals, which foretold great calamities in the world; and before the sound of the seven trumpets, which gave notice of great corruptions arising in the church: between these come in the opening of this chapter, which secures the graces and comforts of the people of God in times of common calamity. We have, 1. An account of the restraint laid upon the winds (v. 1-3).” “Rev 7:1-12

Here we have the first idea of the six seals that were laid upon the winds. By these winds we suppose are meant those errors and corruptions in religion which would occasion a great deal of trouble and mischief to the church of God. Sometimes the Holy Spirit is compared to the wind: here the spirits of error are compared to the four winds, contrary one to another, but doing much hurt to the church, the garden and vineyard of God, breaking the branches and blasting the fruits of his plantation. Observe, these are called the winds of the earth, because they blow only in these lower regions near the earth; heaven is always clear and free from them. 2. They are restrained by the ministry of angels, standing on the four corners of the earth, intimating that the spirit of error cannot go forth till God permits it, and that the angels minister to the good of the church by restraining its enemies. 3. Their restraint was only for a season, and that was till the servants of God were sealed in their foreheads. God has a particular care and concern for his own servants in times of temptation and corruption, and he has a way to secure them from the common infection; he first establishes them, and then he tries them; he has the timing of their trials in his own hand.

David Guzik talks about “The servants of our God”. We are not told what exactly their service is, but the 144,000 are sealed for a specific and unique purpose. However, the general idea of being sealed is not limited to them. Observe the following Scriptures of comfort: Jesus was sealed. He said God the Father has set His seal on Him. (John 6:27);

We are sealed with the Holy Spirit as a down payment of our eventual total redemption. Paul wrote: God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee (2 Corinthians 1:21-22) This sealing of the Holy Spirit belongs to every believer when they are saved having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. (Ephesians 1:13)

The sealing of the Holy Spirit is meant to be both a comfort and a challenge to us. We are comforted in that it assures us that we belong to Him. We are challenged by it to depart from all evil and identify ourselves with the One we belong to. Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” (2 Timothy 2:19) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Ephesians 4:30)

Dear Friend, as we ponder the events that lie ahead, we continue to lean and put our trust in the Lord who made the Heavens and Earth. Let us look to the hills from which cometh our help, our help cometh from the Lord. Remember when David said, “The Lord is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want”. If you find yourself wanting in these perilous times that we live in today, look to the God of Heaven and Earth for in Him we find relief and joy in time of distress and trouble. “What A Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief’s to soothe, what a privilege it is to carry, everything to God in prayer.” Until next time... Email comments to carolynking7@yahoo.com.

Before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, we were here. Before the pen of Jefferson etched across the pages of history the majestic words of the Declaration of Independence, we were here. If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. – Martin Luther King, Jr.

THE DIFFERENCE IS INSIDE US

At Iowa Health – Des Moines, we believe “what’s inside us” is what makes us different.

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you’ll find plenty of opportunities at our hospitals and more than 35 primary care physician clinics throughout central Iowa. And as one of Des Moines’ largest employers, we offer a flexible benefit package and competitive salary.

If you’re interested in joining our team, visit our website at www.iowahospital.org.

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Come cast your vote in the 2009 Family Values Straw Poll
Des Moines was host to a highly successful Mixed Martial Arts competition at the Val Air Ballroom Friday, August 28th. Former Olympic and ISU head coach Bobby Douglas was in attendance (pictured top left on page 6 with Takedown Wrestling Radio & TV host Scott Casber and former Olympian and NCAA wrestling Champion Ben Askren. KCCI’s Marcus Macintosh was on hand to interview each fight’s winner. He admitted cage fighting is his only real vice.

Overall the night’s competition was fierce and entertaining but the real battle was convincing me to get into the cage with the card girls, especially Melanie.

The next scheduled combat will take place in October.
Samantha Etta Woods Makes Her Homegoing

Samantha Etta Woods was born to Hattie P. Bowles and Napoleon L. Abram on July 21, 1908.

She gave birth to 3 children. Samantha was a wonderful mother and set an example to all of her children what it meant to be committed.

A graduate of the Mississippi School System she continued her education at Piney Woods and Alcorn Colleges. She joined Maple Street Missionary Baptist Church.

She retired as owner of Hart’s Curtain Laundry.

Her life was full and she enjoyed gardening, sewing, and quilting. Samantha passed away on Monday, August 24, 2009 at her home in Des Moines, Iowa at the age of 101.

Preceding her in death were her parents Hattie P. Bowles and Napoleon L. Abram; children: a daughter, Chlomine Butts; son, Oliver Cobb, Jr.; husbands, Oliver Cobb, Sr., Howard Hart, and Laney Woods, Sr.; brothers, Percy Ernest, and Hillard Abram, sister, Eloise Abram.

She leaves to cherish her memories her daughter, Juanita Slaughter of Des Moines, Iowa; sister, Mildred Abram of Gary, Indiana; fourteen grandchildren; thirty-seven great-grandchildren; thirty-one great-great-grandchildren; one great-great-great-grandchild and a host of friends. Samantha will be greatly missed by all that knew her. Services were held by all that knew her. Services were held at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Saturday, August 29, 10:00 a.m. family visitation hour; funeral service at 11:00 o’clock - Cannon Mortuary Chapel; burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Cannon Mortuary.

Financial Planning For The Under 35 Crowd

By Petula Traywick • Social Security Assistant District Manager
In Des Moines

Financial Planning is not just for people nearing retirement. In fact, it’s a good idea to begin planning for a comfortable and secure retirement when you’re young.

That’s why Social Security has a new financial planning tool especially for the 25 to 35 crowd. It’s a special mailer with information about Social Security, savings, and other items of interest to young workers. If you’re between the ages of 25 and 35 and you work Social Security taxes, you’ll get this automatically with your next Social Security Statement.

Social Security is the foundation for a secure retirement, but was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. While Social Security replaces about 40 percent of the average worker’s pre-retirement earnings, most financial advisors say that you will need 70 percent or more of pre-retirement earnings to live comfortably. Even with a pension, you will still need to save. If you will not have a private pension, you will need to save more — and start saving sooner.

Today’s young workers can expect to spend 20, 30 or even more years in retirement, so saving is critical.

Want to start planning your future? There are some easy ways to do so. Take a look at Your Social Security Statement, which you’ll receive in the mail about two to three months before your birthday, as well as the helpful two-page insert tailored specifically to workers ages 25 to 35.

Pay close attention to the information provided, including tips on how to get your employer to help with matching contributions to retirement plans, and how much of a difference beginning to save early can make. There’s even a graph showing the significant difference saving over time can make, even if it’s just $25 or $50 a week.

The insert also includes helpful links to outside websites that can help you. For example, you can go to www.mymoney.gov for information on getting credit, paying for education, buying a home, creating a budget, starting a business as well as financial calculators and planning tools. Or, visit www.federalreserve.gov for a worksheet that will help you establish a budget to meet your financial goals. These and other financial links on the insert will help you become the master of your own financial future.

Don’t forget that Social Security coverage is not just for the retired, but also for disability and survivors benefits in the event that you are unable to work, or you leave behind a family that depends on your income when you die. Read more about retirement, disability and survivors benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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

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 250 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. All photos should be 300 dpi or higher.

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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. All photos should be 300 dpi or higher.

For example, you can go to www.mymoney.gov for information on getting credit, paying for education, buying a home, creating a budget, starting a business as well as financial calculators and planning tools. Or, visit www.federalreserve.gov for a worksheet that will help you establish a budget to meet your financial goals. These and other financial links on the insert will help you become the master of your own financial future.

Don’t forget that Social Security coverage is not just for the retired, but also for disability and survivors benefits in the event that you are unable to work, or you leave behind a family that depends on your income when you die. Read more about retirement, disability and survivors benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov.
Secretary Chu Announces Clean Cities Grants For Midwest, Iowa

Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced the selection of 25 cost-share projects under the Clean Cities program that will be funded with nearly $300 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These projects will speed the transformation of the nation’s vehicle fleet, putting more than 9,000 alternative fuel and energy efficient vehicles on the road, and establishing 542 refueling locations across the country. The Department of Energy also estimates they will help displace approximately 38 million gallons of petroleum per year.

“The Clean Cities program is helping give state and local governments the tools they need to build a greener transportation system that will create new jobs and help to put America on the path to a clean energy future,” said Secretary Chu. “Advancing the number of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles on the road will increase our energy security, decrease our dependence on oil, and reduce pollution across the country.”

Metropolitan Energy Information Center received a $14.9 million award today for their Midwest Region Alternative Fuels Project. The project will include 27 alternative fuel stations (16 compressed natural gas stations, one compressed natural gas blended fueling stations, one LPG, one EV) and deploy 373 alternative fuel and advance technology vehicles (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV). The stations will provide additional CNG refueling in cities and along the Interstate corridors (235 CNG, 58 HEV, two LPG, two EV).

The projects announced by Secretary Chu will support a combined total of more than 9,000 light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles and establish 542 refueling locations across the country. The vehicles and infrastructure being funded include the use of natural and renewable gas, propane, ethanol, biodiesel, electricity, and hybrid technologies. And with the cost share contributions from the recipients, every federal dollar spent will be matched by nearly two dollars from the project partners.

Last week, the Department of Energy also announced that it had selected 23 projects for up to $15 million in annual appropriations funding. Like the Recovery Act-funded projects, the annual Clean Cities program will fund a range of energy efficient and advanced vehicle technologies, including biofuels and natural gas. Other efforts under the Clean Cities program include public education and training initiatives to further the program’s goal of reducing the national demand for petroleum.

The projects announced today are selections for financial award. The final details and funding level of each project is subject to the selected entity and DOE.

For a map and complete list of awardees, click http://www.energy.gov/recovery/cleancities.htm

Cornerstone Family Church
3114 SW 61st St
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 6:00 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

Iowa Bystander
Church Directory
...how are they to hear without a preacher? Romans 10:14

Bryan United Methodist Church
Address: 811 Crocker St • DSM, IA 50309
Phone: Church 515-244-5883
Pastor: Pastor: Rev. Dr. Willy, M. Lafaate
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m
Wednesday Bible Study: 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Maple Street Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 1552 E. Maple Street • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 515-282-1931
Pastor: Rev. Keith A. Ratliff, 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.
Free Medical Clinic: 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays - 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 1338-9th Street • DSM, IA 50314
Phone: 515-280-9163
Pastor: Rev. Bobby Young
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

Philadelphia SDA Church
Address: 1639 Garfield Avenue • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 515-262-7467
Pastor: Rev. Marlon T. Perkins, Sr.
Sabbath (Saturday) Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sabbath (Saturday) Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting Service: 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Radio Ministry: 9:00 a.m., Praise 940 AM

Union Missionary Baptist Church
Address: E.Univ. & McCormick • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 262-1785
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Henry L Thomas
Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m., 10:40 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Prayer and Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

...how shall they preach, except they be sent? Romans 10:15

To get your church in our directory call Jon at 515-770-1218!
Investing In DSM Schools Is A Top Priority

The start of a new school year here in Des Moines is a good time to remember that the investments we’re making in education here in Iowa are key to the future of our young people and to our state’s economic growth.

During my years at the Iowa Statehouse, I’ve successfully worked to keep student achievement at the forefront, and Des Moines schools have reaped the benefits.

For example, in Fiscal Year 2006, the Des Moines Independent Community School District received $258,616,601 in total funding. By FY09, Des Moines schools were getting $292,768,384 in total funding. That’s an increase of 13 percent overall, and a 16 percent increase in per pupil.

Our investment is paying off. Iowa students had the highest composite scores in the nation on the SAT. They averaged 1813 on the college entrance exam, compared to a national average of 1509.

In addition, Iowa students had the second highest average ACT score in the nation. Iowa’s average student score was 22.4, just behind Minnesota’s average of 22.7 points.

“It is important to measure the quality of an education system by the outcomes it produces,” said Iowa Department of Education Director Judy Jeffery. “We continue to lead the nation in education system by the outcomes it produces,”

I’m proud to see that once again Iowa students are some of the best in the nation and that our investments in student achievement here in Des Moines and across the state are paying off.

The continuing national recession will bring new challenges to the State Legislature in 2010, but as I work to balance the budget responsibly, I’ll continue to keep the success of our students a top priority.

Additional information

This is a legislative update from Senator Matt McCoy, representing western and southern portions of Des Moines. For newsletters, photos and further information, go to www.iowasanatedemocrats.org/mccoy.

To contact Senator McCoy when the Legislature is not in session e-mail him at McCoym@downtowndesmoines.com or call him at home at 515-274-0561.

Senator Matt McCoy is chair of the Transportation & Infrastructure Budget Subcommittee and vice-chair of the Ways & Means and Appropriations committees. He also serves on the Commerce, Local Government, and Transportation committees.

That number will likely continue to increase as Iowa students meet more rigorous and relevant statewide and local graduation requirements that prepare them for success in college and in today’s workforce.

Minimum requirements: Bachelor’s degree in social work, education, counseling public health or related area; or any equivalent combination of education and experience, which provides the required knowledge and abilities. Salary is commensurate to workforce industry.

Interested parties should contact: Ericka Wiley, VP of Operations at wiley.spectrum@yahoo.com or 515/281-9630 Allen Spencer, VP of Programs at asshe23spencer@yahoo.com or 515-288-1023.

The Des Moines Playhouse production of All Shook Up features Lenny Houts as Chad and Suzanna June as Natalie. All Shook Up is Sept. 11-Oct. 4 at The Playhouse. Photo by Steve Gibbons. Motorcycle courtesy of Big Barn Harley Davidson.
Iowa High School Football “Player Of The Week”

During the 2009 Iowa High School football season, Iowa Network Services and your local Independent Telephone Companies are proud to present a “Player of the Week” from Iowa’s high school football regular season play.

High school athletic directors, coaches and sports reporters from around the state are encouraged to submit their “Player of the Week” nominations each week by 5:00 p.m. every Monday. Submissions can be sent to INSPlayeroftheWeek@Radiolowa.com. Each week, nominations will be reviewed and selected by class division. The “Player of the Week” award will be based on the athlete’s performance and overall sportsmanship. Weekly stats for the player must be included for the nomination to be considered.

Iowa Network Services and your local Independent Telephone Company congratulate this week’s winners. Together, we are proud to support Iowa’s athletes.

“Player of the Week” winners for the week of August 31:

Class 4A: Chad Gilson
Urbandale

The senior quarterback ran for a touchdown and passed for 248 yards on 19-of-29 attempts. Gilson scored on runs of 11 and eight yards and was also a factor on defense. He finished the game with seven tackles, including four for losses.

Class A: Seth Enke
Avoca (AHST)

The senior quarterback rushed for two touchdowns and tossed three scoring passes in a victory over Riverside (Oakland). Enke carried the ball 18 times for 162 yards and through the air was 12-of-17 for 248 yards. Enke is the kicker for the Vikings and converted five-of-six PATs.

Eight-man: Trevor Rigdon
Dunkerton

The senior quarterback accounted for five touchdowns in a victory over CAL (Latimer). Rigdon rushed for 68 yards and three touchdowns, including one from 49 yards out. He was 11-of-19 through the air for 240 yards and had scoring strikes of 49 and 57 yards. He also registered five tackles on defense.

Class 5A: Chaps Wilcke
Odebolt-Arthur/Battle Creek-Ida Grove

Wilcke made the most of his eight carries as the senior running back finished with 173 yards and a pair of touchdowns in a victory over Buffalo Ridge. Wilcke scored on runs 77 and 29 yards.

Class 1A: Bret Nieusma
Pella Christian

The junior fullback carried the ball 24 times for 142 yards and a pair of touchdowns in the Eagles’ victory over New London. Nieusma scored on runs of 11 and eight yards and was also a factor on defense.

Class 2A: Chaps Wilcke
Odebolt-Arthur/Battle Creek-Ida Grove

Rigdon rushed for 68 yards and three touchdowns, including one from 49 yards out. He was 11-of-19 through the air for 240 yards and had scoring strikes of 49 and 57 yards. He also registered five tackles on defense.

Class 3A: Curtis Widener
Boone

The senior quarterback accounted for five touchdowns in a victory over Alcona. Widener finished with 85 yards of rushing on 13 carries and also finished 16-of-24 with 201 yards of passing.
By Jonathan Narcisse

Iowans deserve the best government we can afford. We can afford good government if we cut waste, chase down fraud and eliminate abuse in our programs. Every single organization in state government should have to justify its mission and funding levels. Every position in every organization should be justified as well. If a program is not adding value to the overall mission of state government, then it should be eliminated. If state officials cannot justify why someone is doing something, then that position should be eliminated.

In eight years Gov. Vilsack grew state government by 400 employees. In two years, despite tough economic times and overall downsizing, Gov. Culver grew state government by nearly 1,700 employees — literally four times the growth in one-fourth of the time as his Democratic Party predecessor.

Is that acceptable? No! Why do we have multiple departments, divisions, bureaus and offices doing essentially the same thing? How many bureaucracies do we need to deal with public safety, economic development and social services? How many offices in the Department of Education do essentially the same thing? Why are we spending so much money on administration and so little on ensuring that Iowa’s taxpayers are getting the bang they should for the bucks they are paying?

In order for government to be responsible and accountable, government must be lean, flexible and adaptable. We have thousands of fellow Iowans working for the state dedicated to making Iowa the best place in the country to live. However, we have far too many state employees content to protect their positions through bureaucracy-friendly behaviors.

Beginning November 3, 2010, the day after the general election, Iowa’s elected governor should instruct all department heads to review all controlling legislation, regulations and policies to ensure that the books are wiped clean of archaic, contradictory or efficiency-inhibiting rules. Every state employee should look to eliminate administrative rules that inhibit quality service to all Iowans.

A Vision Of Accountable State Government

In addition to the above measures the following steps should be undertaken:

• Reorganize state government from its nearly three dozen bureaucracies to a dozen or fewer. This would not only save close to $200 million annually, but would also improve the delivery of state services by creating a synergy of purpose between bureaucracies that currently share a mission but maintain divisions to preserve ‘turf’ and status.

• Reduce state government spending. Simply by addressing obvious waste, fraud and abuse we can save taxpayers nearly a billion dollars. For example, if we get an accurate head count of students on certification day we will save between $400-500 million annually.

• Refuse services to illegal immigrants except where there is an immediate threat to life. This step alone will save Iowa’s taxpayers, at all levels, more than $750 million annually.

• Institute a four-year flexible spending freeze, thus establishing an accountable standard for state spending replacing our current revenue estimating approach. Currently state leaders find out how much we’re hoping to get and then plan to spend every penny of it they can by law. That must end!

• Establish monitoring and evaluation procedures to not only ensure efficient and effective delivery of services but to constantly monitor the need for government bureaucracies to exist. Some agencies, even when they’ve done a good job, have run their course and need to be retired.

Finally, we Iowans know what to expect from our neighbors in our communities. We know that we will get help when we need it. We know the help will be given without strings or conditions. We should expect the same from our neighbors serving us in government.