



# American Inspiration



Thoughts for today and every day . . .

“A desire for bigness has hurt many folks. Putting oneself in the limelight at the expense of others is a wrong idea of greatness. The secret of greatness rather than bigness is to acclimate oneself to one’s place of service and be true to one’s own convictions. A life of this kind of service will remain the measure of one’s true greatness.” Richard W. Shelly Jr.



“Once we realize that imperfect understanding is the human condition, there is no shame in being wrong, only in failing to correct our mistakes.” George Soros



“Learn the craft of knowing how to open your heart and to turn on your creativity. There’s a light inside of you.”  
Judith Jamison, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater



“The future frightens only those who prefer living in the past.”  
Author unknown

## American Update

In the next couple of weeks, we have two of our Special Events performances. On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we have some of our All American dancers performing at an SMU vs Marshall football game at Ford Stadium on the SMU campus. They will also participate in the parade prior to the game.

In two weeks, our All Americans will be departing for New York City for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade™. Make sure to tune into NBC to watch the featured performance of the Dance Team on Thanksgiving morning!

## Inspiration of the Week

### The 12 Absolutely Unbreakable Laws of Leadership by Brian Tracy

1. **The Law of Integrity:** Great leadership is characterized by honesty, truthfulness and straight dealing with every person, under all circumstances.
2. **The Law of Courage:** The ability to make decisions and act boldly in the face of setbacks and adversity is the key to greatness in leadership.
3. **The Law of Realism:** Leaders deal with the world as it is, not as they wish it would be.
4. **The Law of Power:** Power gravitates to the person who can use it most effectively to get the desired results.
5. **The Law of Ambition:** Leaders have an intense desire to lead; they have a clear vision of a better future, which they are determined to realize.
6. **The Law of Optimism:** The true leader radiates the confidence that all difficulties can be overcome and all goals can be attained.
7. **The Law of Empathy:** Leaders are sensitive to and aware of the needs, feelings and motivations of their people.
8. **The Law of Resilience:** Leaders bounce back from the inevitable setbacks, disappointments and temporary failures experienced in the attainment of any worthwhile goal.
9. **The Law of Independence:** Leaders know who they are, what they believe in and they think for themselves.
10. **The Law of Emotional Maturity:** Leaders are calm, cool and controlled in the face of problems, difficulties and adversity.
11. **The Law of Excellence:** Leaders are committed to excellent performance of the business task and to continuous improvement.
12. **The Law of Foresight:** Leaders have the ability to predict and anticipate the future.

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*Joyce Pennington, Pres. CEO*



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