September, 2013

AMS Market Research, Inc. for The New York Central Chamber of Commerce

The Opinionated New Yorker

THE VALUE OF A GOOD EDUCATION

Special points of interest:

- The Problem with government programs
- Moody's Raises NYS's Financial Rating
- Are our children's • music and games to blame for heinous crimes committed by our youth?
- Should we retest drivers once they hit a certain age?

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This week we remember the 50th anniversary of the famous "I Have a Dream" speech of Dr. Martin Luther King. King was right; He was the right man for his time. He used advances in communication to make us aware of the intense racism being practiced in our country. Not that we did not about the segregation and the efforts to intimidate and suppress the black community. We had heard about it, but it was far away, removed, if you will from our small comfortable sheltered existence we called our world; It was down south. Or to put it bluntly, we chose to close our eyes to the real world. He opened them through our living room televisions, and we could not escape the facts any longer.

He forced us to look at our values and to take action to help correct the unjust. We almost succeeded, but we, society, made an error. We knew then, and now, that the most powerful tool for achieving equality is a good education. Yet we seem to have failed in that area. The black youth of today are not getting the education they need in order to integrate their generation into the working community. Some are succeeding, more than ever before, but not nearly enough.

I thought about this and asked college educated, and three have myself why? There have been advanced degrees. There are many other ethnic groups who fifteen great grandchildren, and have been successful in using all are college educated. You education as the tool for can bet that these decedents of a achievement. What is differ- poor hard working immigrant all ent? attitude. When my grandfather applying themselves to take adcame to this country, he neither vantage of the educational opspoke nor understood English. portunity we have here in this He knew he had to work to country, as will their children. earn a living, so he did. He did not expect food stamps, wel- Back to our problem, ATTIfare, unemployment, extended TUDE. We have kids who do unemployment, SSI, Medicaid, not want an education, but we etc. None of these programs force them into school. When existed. He worked at whatev- they are at school, they disrupt er work he could get. My the education process so that the grandfather was a poor man children who want to learn, have and he worked for pennies for a more difficult time. In many as long as fifteen hours a day! of these homes, the work ethic He learned a trade and became has been lost. I spoke to a fela tailor. Unfortunately, he was low last week who cannot decide so poor, two of his three chil- whether to take a job offer or dren, both sons, were sent to an not. He currently works as a orphanage. choice so they could get a good education.

Grandfather died poor, but beeconomic position to be better the least. off than the prior generation. That is the power of education. This is a perfect example of the from these two sons. All are (continued on page 3)

It is the community's can appreciate the importance of

He made that short order cook in a country club. The club is open for six months a year so he is laid off in the winter. He was offered a job at a local restaurant for more fore he died, he saw both of his money which would employ him children, the ones who he sent all year long. Why doesn't he to get a good education, suc- just accept the job? He does not ceed in their own businesses. want to give up his unemploy-Both had used their opportunity ment benefits in the winter for education to improve their months. I was astounded to say

There are five grandchildren problem; He has come to expect

From the Desk of the Editor...

I want to express my outrage at the lack of a public outcry at a few recent murders.

First, a 22 year old Australian athlete was shot in the back while out for a run, by three teenagers. They admitted the crime was committed out of sheer boredom. Second, an 88 vear old World War II veteran was sitting in his car when two young men savagely beat him to death. Third, a twelve year old girl was strangled by a sixteen year old boy while out riding her bike. Her body was found in a recycling bin. Fourth, and almost unbelievable, two teens shot a 13-month -old baby while in the mother's arms as she pleaded "don't shoot my baby!" The murderers claimed they did it for fun!!!

You would think the public outcry would be vigorous, but it was not even out there. Due to these insensitive and horrific crimes, the Prime Minister of Australia has issued a travel warning about travel in the United States. Our President did not express sorrow about any of the victims. Neither Al Sharpton nor any of the other phony pot stirring pieces of garbage were on hand to yell "racism". Notice that I neglected to mention if any of the victims or murderers are white, black or any other race. It's not important. We are all human and the casual motives and lack of remorse reflects upon our sociological values (or lack thereof) for humanity today.

I have a theory on these "boredom" or "thrill killings". I think that teenagers are getting a bad message from their entertainment. I remember when I was a teenager and people were complaining about rock and roll music. The adults were worried that it would be the end of moral character. We were we singing about ... Lovemarriage....girlfriends... boyfriends....being lonely. Next came the 60's which was an era of lots of sex, drugs and a lot of complaining. I still complain a lot. The music these kids have today is a very disturbing. It's called "Gang

sta-Rap." The name should tip us off. This genre of music has words in songs such as "I'm gonna shoot the motha fu_a" which is a most common phrase. If kids hear this all day long, I see how they might start to think it is acceptable to their peers.

How about video games? Let's look at Grand Theft Auto which is in it's fifth version and is extremely popular. First, we have an immoral topic, a game about stealing cars. Then as one plays the game, the characters can have sex with others and, most shocking, the character can murder the person he just had sex with! Why are people not protesting games like these?

Then you have a tragic situation such as last year's Newton shooting and we find out that the murderer was playing games such as these. These games allow children to experience murder in a fantasy situation. A person generally exhibits more aggressive behavior after playing these video games. Having a gun does not make someone murderer; Having a thought that it is ok to murder does. Many studies have proven that a link exists between violence in gaming and reality. (Science daily.com, 3/26/13, Kotaku.com) Notice how the studies in the 1980s were not as conclusive as the most recent studies. The fact that our more recent games have gotten more violent and have more realistic graphics have had an effect on these studies concluding that violence is an after affect of playing them.

Our sense of apathy or lack of understanding is no longer an acceptable excuse. We need to start working to bring back values that cherish human life. Just one generation ago, I was taught to "do unto others as you would have done unto you." If you are a parent I urge you to listen to the words of the music your kids are listening to and pay attention to the games your children play. You

Government Report

Moody's Investors' Services has improved New York State's outlook from stable to *positive*. They affirmed an Aa2 rating on the State's \$3.5 billion of General Obligation Bonds. The change reflects improvements in the NYS's economy; governance strength including on time budgets and executive authority to reduce appropriations; a financial position which, while still remains below average is improving; and a more positive fiscal outlook that includes a moderate combined debt and pension burden, sound debt management and frequently updated financial forecasting.

Some of the weaknesses that remain include weakness in the financial services sector, continued revenue volatility, and low fund balance and liquidity positions.

For more in depth information, go to www.governor.ny.gov/ press/08222013-moodysrevising-new=yorksoutlook-to-positive for an excerpt of Moody's report.

—Jacquelyn Liput

THE VALUE...

(continued from page 1)

the entitlement. Worse, he believes the government money is more important than his growth in his selected occupation. There are people who need entitlements, but this is not one of them. The fact is, he is a freeloader on your (and my) dime. We need to reduce the entitlements to those who really need them to survive. This is not partisan politics; This is common sense. With all of the baby boomers starting to retire, if we do not control the excess entitlements, who will be left to pay the taxes? I say it is time we revert back to people being responsible for themselves. Who knows, maybe we will have more students in the classroom, exercising the muscle between their ears.

—Len Slutsky, Editor



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THE BENEFITS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING

By Tom Richards

Professional benefits

While many people <u>fear public speaking</u>, there are plenty of good reasons why you should not only approach it with courage, but also with pleasure and hope. If you are a professional, and particularly if you are independent or work for a consultant, public speaking can offer significant skills.

Skill-building

As a professional person, there are many occasions when you will need to speak with others outside of the big-audience public-speaking scene. For example, a manager may want to address his/her department (or an individual address everyone and the manager). You may need to talk persuasively with individuals in various circumstances such as a job interview or asking for a raise in salary. Public speaking can help with all of these situations. If you can stand up in front of a large audience and talk persuasively, then talking to a smaller group or an individual is not such a big deal.

Professional credibility

Speaking at events, conferences and so on is very good for adding to your credibility. The larger the event the better, since you can add these achievements to your CV.

Networking

When you are a speaker at an event, you will suddenly find that everyone wants to talk with you. This is of course a splendid opportunity for making friends, building business contacts and more. additionally, you have the opportunity to network with other speakers, some of whom may be very difficult to contact in the "normal" world. Speaking events may also have guest rooms for speakers where they are plied with food and drink and can network together as a superior echelon.

Finding work

The credibility and networking opportunities that public speaking gives also provides you with the chance of finding work, from people who might offer you a full-time job to consulting engagements.

Developing courage

It takes courage (at least at first) to stand up on the stage and talk, even when you may feel like running away and hiding. By facing your demons, you can learn to face and overcome even more situations, thereby, becoming a more courageous person in the process.

Building confidence

There is no doubt that you need confidence to speak on a public stage and that speaking on a public stage can help you become more confident. Just as being courageous once makes you more courageous at other times, so also does acting in a confident way make you a more confident person.

Learning to argue

When you present, you often need to put forward a coherent <u>argument</u>. In the preparation that you have to do, in the practice and on the actual stage of public speaking, you will learn much about the art of arguing, especially if you get to engage with your audience in some form of question and answer session.

SURVEY ON AGGRESSIVE DRIVING

AMS MARKET RESEARCH, INC. recently conduct-AMS Market Research, Inc. ed a survey on the prevalence of aggressive driv-Accurate Data at a ing on our roads. We are pleased to share some More Reasonable Cost! of the results with you. HOW OFTEN DO YOU SEE VEHICLES TRAVELING AT AN UNSAFE SPEED? All of the time at of the time e of the time © Ron Leishman * www.ClipartOf.com/442184 10'9 WHICH DRIVING BEHAVIORS DO YOU NORMALLY ENCOUNTER? 100 % 80 % 60 % 40 % 20 0% Tailgating ne Weaving in and out ield Running red Ignoring stop signs Texting g to Driver in att on cell pho DO YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE RE-TESTING OF DRIVERS WHEN THEY PASS A CERTAIN AGE? IN GENERAL, DO YOU SUPPORT THE USE OF RED LIGHT CAMERAS? DO YOU FEEL THAT TEXTING WHILE DRIVING IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM? 50 % 100 % 80 9 60 % 30 9 60 % 40 9 20 9 40 % 20 % 10% 20 % 0% Not sure Not sure Support Yes Yes Oppose No Not sure

Call us now to discuss the complete findings...

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THE NEW YORK 60 NEW YORK CENTRAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.

THE FOLLOWING IS A COMPOSITE LISTING OF SIXTY OF

NEW YORK'S MORE POPULAR PUBLICLY TRADED COMPANIES The prices posted are the most recent available prior to the date of publication. The Chamber nor its management DO NOT recommend or endorse the purchase of any securities. Investment in any company, or its stock, requires careful evaluation of the company, its management, history and projected earnings. The information provided in this newsletter is for reporting purposes only. We have labeled this report "The New York 60". From time to time we may add or delete companies from this report. This list is by no means a complete listing of public companies located in NYS.

Symbol	Name	Price	P/E	EPS	Yield	52-Wk Ra	inge
ACET	Aceto Corp.	\$ 14.46	17.89	\$ 0.81	1.6	\$ 8.95	\$ 17.29
AIG	American International Group, Inc.	\$ 50.33	27.08	\$ 1.86	0.8	\$ 30.64	\$ 50.77
AIZ	Assurant Inc.	\$ 55.82	11.24	\$ 4.97	1.8	\$ 33.62	\$ 56.42
AOL	AOL Inc.	\$ 33.87	26.55	\$ 1.28	0	\$ 29.16	\$ 43.93
ARW	Arrow Electronics, Inc.	\$ 48.13	11.63	\$ 4.14	0	\$ 31.31	\$ 49.00
ARX	Aeroflex Holding Corp.	\$ 7.14	-	\$ (1.23)	-	\$ 5.00	\$ 9.25
AVP	Avon Products Inc.	\$ 20.98	-	\$ (0.26)	1.2	\$ 13.70	\$ 24.71
AXP	American Express Company	\$ 76.62	18.8	\$ 4.07	1.2	\$ 53.02	\$ 78.63
BID	Sotheby's	\$ 47.24	31.81	\$ 1.49	0.8	\$ 27.98	\$ 49.17
BLK	BlackRock, Inc.	\$ 272.23	17.68	\$ 15.40	2.5	\$ 175.49	\$ 298.14
BMY	Bristol-Myers Squibb Company	\$ 45.84	55.99	\$ 0.82	3.2	\$ 30.64	\$ 49.57
CA	CA Technologies	\$ 30.43	13.29	\$ 2.29	3.3	\$ 21.48	\$ 31.43
CIT	CIT Group Inc.	\$ 49.53	39.42	\$ 1.26	-	\$ 36.02	\$ 51.52
CL	Colgate-Palmolive Co.	\$ 60.08	25.06	\$ 2.40	2.3	\$ 51.41	\$ 62.70
CMTL	Comtech Telecommunications Corp.	\$ 24.33	22.74	\$ 1.07	4.5	\$ 22.33	\$ 29.11
CVC	Cablevision Systems Corporation	\$ 17.09	19.24	\$ 0.89	3.4	\$ 13.21	\$ 20.16
ED	Consolidated Edison Inc.	\$ 55.47	16.17	\$ 3.43	4.5	\$ 53.63	\$ 64.03
ETFC	E*TRADE Financial Corporation	\$ 17.57	-	\$ (0.82)	-	\$ 7.70	\$ 17.61
FL	Foot Locker, Inc.	\$ 33.00	12.19	\$ 2.71	2.4	\$ 31.07	\$ 37.85
FRX	Forest Laboratories Inc.	\$ 44.08	-	\$ (0.24)	-	\$ 31.71	\$ 44.92
GLW	Corning Inc.	\$ 14.86	11.52	\$ 1.29	2.7	\$ 10.71	\$ 16.43
GS	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	\$ 165.82	10.09	\$ 16.45	1.2	\$ 111.90	\$ 169.69
HES	Hess Corporation	\$ 77.91	7.32	\$ 10.64	1.3	\$ 48.20	\$ 78.57
НОТ	Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc.	\$ 68.44	20.21	\$ 3.39	1.8	\$ 50.22	\$ 70.16

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Symbol	Name	Price	P/E	EPS	Yield	52-Wk Range	
HSIC	Henry Schein, Inc.	\$ 104.65	22.69	\$ 4.61	-	\$ 73.35	\$ 107.75
IBM	International Business Machines Corp.	\$ 192.72	13.71	\$ 14.08	2	\$ 181.10	\$ 215.90
IEP	Icahn Enterprises, L.P.	\$ 78.51	20.78	\$ 3.78	6.4	\$ 37.22	\$ 90.75
IFF	International Flavors & Fragrances Inc.	\$ 82.94	24.55	\$ 3.37	1.9	\$ 59.25	\$ 84.99
IPG	The Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	\$ 16.94	18.79	\$ 0.90	1.8	\$ 9.38	\$ 17.43
ITT	ITT Corporation	\$ 35.37	21.69	\$ 1.63	1.1	\$ 19.79	\$ 35.69
JAH	Jarden Corp.	\$ 48.66	27.68	\$ 1.76	0	\$ 32.43	\$ 49.28
JPM	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	\$ 52.81	8.84	\$ 5.98	2.9	\$ 38.83	\$ 56.93
KIM	Kimco Realty Corporation	\$ 20.37	47.55	\$ 0.43	4.1	\$ 18.11	\$ 25.09
L	Loews Corporation	\$ 47.10	28.15	\$ 1.67	0.5	\$ 39.57	\$ 47.71
MHFI *	McGraw Hill Financial, Inc.	\$ 63.31	16.52	\$ 3.83	1.8	\$ 42.07	\$ 64.65
MMC	Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	\$ 43.15	18.48	\$ 2.33	2.4	\$ 33.09	\$ 43.24
MS	Morgan Stanley	\$ 28.89	44.82	\$ 0.64	0.7	\$ 15.95	\$ 29.07
MSG	The Madison Square Garden Company	\$ 56.25	30.73	\$ 1.83	-	\$ 39.00	\$ 63.44
NATH	Nathan's Famous Inc.	\$ 55.06	28.68	\$ 1.92	-	\$ 26.70	\$ 62.35
NFG	National Fuel Gas Company	\$ 66.65	21.49	\$ 3.10	2.3	\$ 48.51	\$ 67.68
NYT	The New York Times Company	\$ 11.28	8.72	\$ 1.30	0	\$ 7.72	\$ 12.84
OMC	Omnicom Group Inc.	\$ 65.37	17.57	\$ 3.72	2.5	\$ 45.11	\$ 70.50
PAYX	Paychex, Inc.	\$ 40.83	26.14	\$ 1.56	3.5	\$ 30.55	\$ 40.85
PEP	Pepsico, Inc.	\$ 81.79	19.27	\$ 4.24	2.8	\$ 67.39	\$ 87.06
PFE	Pfizer Inc.	\$ 28.68	7.98	\$ 3.60	3.4	\$ 23.55	\$ 31.15
PLL	Pall Corporation	\$ 74.60	14.8	\$ 5.03	1.4	\$ 58.18	\$ 74.91
PM	Philip Morris International, Inc.	\$ 88.00	17.08	\$ 5.15	4.3	\$ 82.10	\$ 96.73
PVH	PVH Corp.	\$ 123.62	47.01	\$ 4.22	0.1	\$ 90.36	\$ 134.98
REV	Revlon, Inc.	\$ 25.43	27	\$ 0.94	-	\$ 13.91	\$ 27.02
RL	Ralph Lauren Corporation	\$ 165.89	21	\$ 7.91	1	\$ 144.14	\$ 192.03
SIX	Six Flags Entertainment Corporation	\$ 34.97	9.73	\$ 3.60	5.1	\$ 26.60	\$ 40.31
SKS	Saks Incorporated	\$ 15.88	53.29	\$ 0.30	0	\$ 9.24	\$ 17.51
STZ	Constellation Brands Inc.	\$ 59.00	30.15	\$ 1.96	-	\$ 28.37	\$ 59.64
TIF	Tiffany & Co.	\$ 78.64	23.34	\$ 3.37	1.7	\$ 55.83	\$ 83.33
TWC	Time Warner Cable Inc.	\$113.24	15.5	\$ 7.30	2.3	\$ 84.57	\$ 120.93
TWX	Time Warner Inc.	\$ 62.76	17.02	\$ 3.69	1.8	\$ 42.61	\$ 66.01
UAM	Universal American Corp	\$ 7.91	-	\$ (0.56)	0	\$ 7.26	\$ 11.13
VIA	Viacom, Inc.	\$ 83.08	18.73	\$ 4.44	1.5	\$ 48.12	\$ 84.17
VOXX	VOXX International Corporation	\$ 13.21	10.68	\$ 1.23	-	\$ 5.55	\$ 15.00
WBMD	WebMD Health Corp.	\$ 30.42	-	\$ (0.12)	-	\$ 13.13	\$ 35.28



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