

CHECKING OUT STUDENT LOANS – I recently read an article in the Oklahoma Society of CPAs magazine about student loans. About 80% of borrowers use private loans rather than government loans. Here are some differences – 1) Private loans add fees to your balance for more interest over the life of the loan, 2) Government loans are subsidized offering no interest while in school and lower rates, 3) Government loans offer some grace periods and reprieves in certain instances, 4) Private loans have no default provisions, default after 120 days and incur penalties and higher interest rates, 5) Private loans are not eligible for consolidation and 6) federal loans discharge on death of the borrower while the co-signer on a private loan must continue to pay according to the contract.

Dan Fisher, state representative for the Yukon area and former pastor for the Trinity

Baptist Church, has a program called the Black Robe Regiment which is strongly recommended if you get a chance to see it. He acts out the roles of several colonial pastors who used their pulpits to promote the War for Independence. He uses actual quotes in his presentation and also has a book on the subject. Go see the act or buy the book!!

CHANGE IN COMPANY DUE DATES – Recent legislation has changed the due dates of certain company tax returns. Partnership tax returns were due on April 15 and are now due on March 15. The extension date will remain September 15. The “C” corporation tax return was due on March 15 and will now be due on April 15. The extension is still due September 15.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 – Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves, a cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

BUSINESS DISASTERS – Most Oklahomans have a

specific plan for tornados and are ready to move quickly. They have lists and pictures and valuables in the safe deposit box in case they are needed for insurance purposes. Is your business ready? Consider these recommended items * contact lists for employees, customers and vendors * copies of insurance policies and agent numbers * inventory listings and pictures * back up computer systems and data files (preferably off-site) * lists and pictures of company assets * copies of loans and banker numbers * copies of tax returns and CPA number and * Cash reserves.

Do some what-if planning and ask yourself about replacing your office space, your equipment and your records. If a tornado or flood wipes out a sizeable area, space and computer techs will be at a premium and you may need two to four weeks or more to restart operations. Expenses will be higher

while no income will be generated.

Christopher Columbus wrote in his Book of Prophecies "My hope in the One who created us all sustains me. He is an ever present help in trouble...When I was extremely depressed, He raised me up with His right hand, saying, "O man of little faith, get up, it is I; do not be afraid".

STARTING A BUSINESS? – There are many things to consider before you start a business. Location, competition, pricing, product or service and employees are just a few of the things that impact a business. I recommend that you schedule a free one hour consultation to discuss any plans before you sign leases or loan documents.

Let me give an example of a bad way to start a business. A young woman came to me with \$10,000 wanting to start an event center. She had the perfect location, but rent would eat her initial funds in about five or six months. She had no website or advertising, no contacts with florists, caterers or wedding planners and no network of contacts to help her. She was very disappointed when I pointed this out but I hope I saved her \$10,000!

Franklin Delano Roosevelt said this in his first Inaugural Address, "In this dedication of a nation, we humbly ask the blessing of God. May He protect each and every one of us! May He guide me in the days to come."

My Yukon house is FOR SALE! We lived at 11748

SW 7th Street. The house has tile and wood floors, jet tubs and oversize cabinets in the bathrooms, big rooms and a sprinkler system outside. There are three bedrooms and two full bathrooms downstairs and three rooms upstairs that have served as office, playroom, home school room and bedroom at different times. Please call Kimberly Spencer at 795-3363 to see this beautiful 2,550 square foot home in the Mustang School District. It is just a mile from I-40, three miles from Yukon shopping and five miles from Mustang shopping.

PSALM 115:1 – Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.