# **American Inspiration**

#### Thoughts for today and every day . . .

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 $\checkmark$  "To be healthy, wealthy, happy and successful in any and all areas of your life, you need to be aware that you need to think healthy, wealthy, happy and successful thoughts 24 hours a day and cancel all negative, destructive, fearful and unhappy thoughts. These two types of thought cannot coexist if you want to share in the abundance that surrounds us all." Sidney Madwed

 $\checkmark^{"}\text{Good}$  humor and enthusiasm should be the sunshine ahead that will keep that shadow behind." Charles Field

√"Efficiency is doing things—not wishing you could do them, dreaming about them, or wondering if you can do them." Frank Crane

 $\checkmark$  "A tart temper never mellows with age, and a sharp tongue is the only edged tool that grows keener with constant use." Washington Irving

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### <sup>&</sup> American Update

Happy back to school everyone! It seems like our summers get shorter and shorter each year. However, it is exciting to start a new school year with new students and new friends. American had a fabulous summer filled with camps that were a huge success! The routines were fabulous and we cannot wait to see some of the great halftimes this fall.

For those that like to plan well in advance, our **2012 Competition Dates** are on our web site. We have 23 locations and dates that will offer you the most positive experience available. Video/Audio judges comments on USB flash drive for all routines from two of the three judges in each performance area. Efficient and organized schedule, prompt awards ceremony, immediate results on our web site, all combine to create a fantastic event for you and your team. Learn more about these on our web site at <u>www.DanceADTS.com</u>.

Outstanding dancers and teams from our 2011 competitions and camps will have the opportunity to participate in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade<sup>™</sup> with Spirit of America Productions, the Capital One Bowl with ESP Productions, as well as the SMU Football Extravaganza in Dallas. Learn more about our Special Events Performances on our web site at www.DanceADTS.com



## When you fail, fail forward

Everybody fails, errs, and makes mistakes. You've heard the saying "To err is human, to forgive is divine." Alexander Pope wrote that over 250 years ago. And, he was only paraphrasing an ancient saying that was common during the time of the Romans. Recently, I came across something called "Rules for Being Human." I think several of these describe well the state we're in:

Rule #1: You will learn lessons.

Rule #2: There are no mistakes—only lessons.

Rule #3: A lesson is repeated until it is learned.

Rule #4: If you don't learn the easy lessons, they get harder.

Rule #5: You'll know you've learned a lesson when your actions

#### change.

You see, the writer, Norman Cousins was right when he said, "The essence of man is imperfection." Failure is simply a price we pay to achieve success. If we learn to embrace that new definition of failure, then we are free to start moving ahead—and failing forward.

By John C. Maxwell's book, Leadership ... Promises For Every Day

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