



MY FOND MEMORIES OF JAPAN



Cornell Jordan
Guest Columnist

One year ago, I had faith that my travels to Japan with the People To People Student Ambassadors program were ordered by God, just as others events in my life, such as being an honor graduate of Parkland IB Magnet High School in June 2009; an Eagle Scout in January 2009;

and an incoming freshman at UNC Chapel Hill this August.

In July 2008, my parents, Selvyn and Lydia Jordan, put me on a plane to Tokyo with three trained, internationally-qualified leaders and 28 high school students from across North Carolina. I was thankful to be given the opportunity to travel with People To People Student Ambassadors, which was founded by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956 as a way for people of all ages to develop and promote peace through international relationships, by

embracing and learning other cultures.

Most of my life has included national and international travel with my family, but my travels to Tokyo and Kyoto were a completely mind-changing experience. The opportunity to travel to other countries changed my perspective of the world, especially without family along with me. Although America is called the "melting pot of the world," our cultural awareness is relatively low. Having the opportunity to travel out of this nation greatly reduces the lack of

cultural ignorance.

Japan is not like the United States and Europe. The country's Eastern culture makes the people more modest and willing to accommodate your needs without

monetary incentive. The citizens are generally more reserved and nice. There was never a moment where I felt un-welcomed or mistreated.

As far as the actual stay, I had wonderful hosts, and re-

siding in their country for 14 days was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I took 1,500 pictures during my visit, some of which are highlighted here.

PFLAG chapter will use grant from Blessings to support youths

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) received a \$4,000 grant from Blessings Project Foundation to provide training and education on issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth. The grant will also provide local entities with the tools necessary to better serve and ensure the safety and well being of LGBT youth and to advocate on behalf of homeless and abandoned LGBT youth in our community.

"This grant from the Blessings Project Foundation will enable us to do the very sensitive and necessary work of facilitating a relationship with the entities that serve our youth on issues facing LGBT youth," said PFLAG Board Member TaMeicka Clear. "I am very grateful to the Blessings Project for assisting us with this effort and look forward to developing an ongoing relationship with them to impress upon our community that safety and human treatment for all, including LGBT youth, is paramount to the Winston-Salem community."

Amy Garland, Blessings



Garland



Farmer



Clear

Project Foundation director said. "We are very pleased to support PFLAG of Winston-Salem in this important endeavor, and proud to partner with organizations throughout our community who support our mission and commitment to humanity, the environment and the arts."

PFLAG Board President Thomas Farmer said that one of PFLAG's main priorities is working to help youth.

"This grant from Blessings Project Foundation will help us better train, educate, and advocate on behalf of homeless, abandoned, neglected, and mistreated LGBT youth in the Winston-Salem area," he said. "We believe that providing a voice for those that have no voice will lead to better understanding and reconciliation among families with LGBT youth and a more enlightened community as well."

It is the mission of PFLAG to promote the well being of LGBT persons through support to cope with an adverse society; advocacy - to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights; and education - to enlighten an ill informed public.

Daggett earns 'Hero' award

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Local Attorney David Daggett was recently presented with the Everyday Hero Award by the 2009 Ford Ironman Coeur d'Alene, a grueling physical challenge that pits the world's top athletes against one another.

Daggett, an accomplished triathlete, won the honor for being the competitor who has contributed the most to a person, charity or organization in a significant way while continuing the challenge of training for arduous Ironman competition, which includes a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike race and 26.2-mile marathon run.

This honor recognizes Daggett's positive contribution to the community through Safe Sober Prom Night, which he founded with his law partner, Michael Lewis, 19 years ago. The program encourages positive peer pressure for teenagers on the road to success. Since its inception, more than 400,000 students have taken the "Do It Right!" pledge to stay Safe and Sober. Daggett, Lewis and other members of the law firm's staff personally pay for and distribute more than 15,000 free t-shirts to students who "Take the Pledge." Daggett also regularly

drives home the safe and sober message through personal appearances. This spring alone, he has made more than 50 appearances, presentations and speeches at schools and community events.

"We truly believe that unless the future generations turn out better than ours, that both have failed. So, we each have an obligation to do our part in order to succeed," says Daggett. "That obligation extends far beyond prom night. When you transform a life, you know you

have made a lasting difference - it can't get any better than that!"

Daggett was also selected to be a part of the exclusive Ironman Executive Challenge (XC) this year, where he was the oldest competitor.

"I always knew that one day I would be the oldest, I just didn't know it would happen so soon," he joked.

Daggett placed fourth in the XC, with an overall time of 11:35:43. This was Daggett's 18th Ironman competition and his 151st triathlon.

Video footage of Daggett's Everyday Hero award presentation was to be included in broadcasts of the competition slated to air on NBC and ESPN.



Daggett

True Vine Churches of Deliverance, International Holy Convocation 2009

Monday, August 3rd - Friday, August 7th
7:00pm Nightly

Apostle Sylvester Davis Johnson
Establishmentarian/Primate
Conference Host

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Bishop Albert Jamison
Brooklyn, NY

Bishop Nathan Anderson
Charlotte, NC

Bishop Donnie Graves
Greensboro, NC

Bishop Francis Johnson
Newport News, VA

Conference Site:
International Headquarters Cathedral
Macedonia Worship Center
500 Kinard Drive / Winston-Salem, NC 27101
888-723-2190 / Email: www.truevine@aol.com

Late-Night Musical / Fri. Aug. 7th @ 10:00pm

Dionn Owen & Renaissance
Ricky Dillard

For Additional information, contact
Bishop Tim Jackson @ 918-720-4161

ECONOMIC RECOVERY WORKSHOPS FOR SMALL & HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (HUBS)

Want to learn who is receiving recovery dollars and how your business might participate?
ATTEND THE GREENSBORO WORKSHOP!

DATE

Wednesday, August 5, 2009
9:30a.m.—12:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- Introduction to the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- NC Recovery Commitment to Small Businesses & HUBs
- The Use of Local Recovery Dollars and Business Opportunities
- Making Sure You Have the Needed Resources
- Getting Your Questions Answered and Getting Feedback.

LOCATION

A&T UNIVERSITY
1601 E. Market St.
Greensboro, NC 27411

For more information on the NC Recovery effort
go to www.ncrecovery.gov
or call 1-888-833-5003 or 919-733-1433.

Everything You Need to Know About

Accessing NC Economic Recovery Opportunities

To Register email admin_bta@bellsouth.net

