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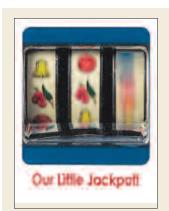
ARTSDAY

Celebrity 'Invasion'

William Shatner's reality spoof, Invasion Iowa, is a drop in TV's reality-star bucket. 8E

Dallas News.com

Monday, March 28, 2005



The Dallas Morning News

A template forall

reasons

Need to send a quick thank-you note but don't have time to run to the store? Want to create a fitness log or food diary? Don't start from scratch. Microsoft has free templates for all kinds of projects, such as the birth announcement above, on its Web site, www.office.micro soft.com/en-us/templates/ default.aspx.

There are examples for writing complaint letters, cover letters and resignations. You can download legal forms, stationery, recipe cards, even garage sale signs. If you need to get organized, there are templates for meal planning, household budgets and

And if you don't see what you're looking for, there's even a place to suggest templates you'd like to see on the site.

Jennifer Chamberlain

INSIDE

Spending too much on her?

He wines them, he dines them, he sends flowers the next day. So how come he can't get past the second date? Advice Goddess, 2E

FUNNY OF THE DAY

What's in a name?

Cathy finds another factor in deciding what her last name will be. **5E**

> THINK YOU HAVE PROBLEMS?

Career path bump

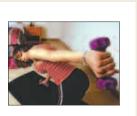
Therapist discovers she doesn't really like her clients. Dear Abby, 4E

COMING UP

WEDNESDAY Stories in the night sky: Learn to find the constellations in the sky above you and the stories behind them. Texas Living:

Kids Day FRIDAY What's hot in house-

wares: See what was new at the 2005 International Home & Housewares Show. **Texas Living:** House & Garden



TUESDAY

A suite workout

Several major hotel chains offer ways to work out in the privacy of your room even if you forgot to bring the right gear. **Healthy Living**

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TOM FOX/Staff Photographer

Tarrant County Junior College student Crystal Ronquillo visits a job site with her mentor, Winston Services owner Cherryl J. Peterman, to inspect a building being refurbished in northeast Fort Worth.

VOICESOFEXPERIENCE

Mentors can help younger workers handle career rough spots

By JENNIFER CHAMBERLAIN

hen you hit a stumbling block in your career, sometimes a fresh perspective is all you need to get back on track.

That's where a mentor comes in, says Lisa McNew, founder and chief execu-**SOLUTIONS**

tive of the Alliance of Technology and Women, a Dallas firm that supports women in technology fields through programs including mentoring.

Whether climbing the corporate ladder or just trying to find a way to balance work and life, many women have found mentoring provides a way to overcome challenges and take their careers to the next level.

relationships I've seen come from an individual meeting someone whom they really click with and discovering someone they're very comfortable in letting down their guard with," says Ms. McNew.

This can happen through a company program or informally.

Taking the initial step can be difficult, she says, because it requires being open to guidance and self-exami-

You have to have the courage to reach out to someone and admit you need help.

But the rewards can be worth it. A

"Some of the strongest mentoring mentor can guide you to greater personal strength and confidence, and a new outlook on how you handle problems in the future, Ms. McNew says.

> "You get the most when you give the most, and part of the giving is being very introspective and able to measure yourself," she says.

> On Pages 2E and 3E, find stories about three mentoring relationships that worked, from a high schooler finding her career path, a woman setting up a small business and an IBM employee navigating corporate life, plus resources.

E-mail jchamberlain@dallasnews.com



JOHN DAVID EMMETT/Special Contributor

Demetria L. Wise jokes with mentor John R. Wallace during a meeting to refine her business plan. Ms. Wise, president and CEO of Wise Business Services, has been working with Mr. Wallace, an official at EDS, for two

Keep friend with abusive husband safe

Question: I have a friend who is white. She was living with her Hispanic boyfriend for 18 months but moved out about four months ago. He wasn't physically abusive, but he would make fun of her in front of his family and friends, not come home at night and not call, and constantly accuse her of

cheating on him. The only thing my friend was guilty of was going to work, trying to help her boyfriend start his own business. The last straw came when he confessed that he was in this country illegally. (He had told her that he was here on a work vi-

was a loving and caring person, anyone. Now that she has moved which helps explain why my friend out, she doesn't know what to do. secretly married him. At the time, He harasses her at work and even

CONSEJOS



Consejos is a bilingual advice column featuring Liliana Gundlach, Catherine Jagers and Daniel Ramirez

consejos@dallasnews.com

Early in their relationship, he they decided it was best not to tell

talks to her co-workers about how much he loves her.

Is my friend's marriage legal? If so, what can she do to get a divorce, since he is here illegally? Please help her. All she wants is her peace and sanity back.

Lily: As long as she has a certified marriage license, your friend's marriage is legal. So, yes, she could consult a lawyer about arranging a

If her relationship has taken a tential for him to get physical exturn toward the ugly, she also should consider taking more drastic measures.

Above all, she needs to be safe. Maybe she can block his number at work.

She should not attempt to approach him on her own — based on his previous behavior, the po-

READERS RESPOND

Not into the "extended family" thing? Then maybe the gentleman who wrote last week should break off the relationship with his Latina girlfriend. Find this and other opinions on our online message board at

DallasNews.com/consejos.

Your friend has made the first move by leaving him and moving out. Does she have a family support system that she can count on?

Even if she does, you should walk her through the divorce process and help her seek professional

help for any emotional scarring

this may have caused.

Danny: Peace and sanity can wait, but for now involve as many friends and family as possible. Her safety is in numbers, so take proactive steps to keep your friend out of harm's way.

The boyfriend, as you describe him, follows a familiar pattern of escalating abuse.

It's all a game involving manipulation, false fronts and projections of guilt and insecurity meant to make her feel worthless and dependent and him to feel macho

and in control. Although the marriage might be legal, a loophole may exist because of the circumstances. Contact an immigration and divorce

See FRIEND Page 2E





He needs to chill a bit to get serial dates Finding a mentor

Dear Advice Goddess: I'm an attractive, fit, financially stable, 28-year-old guy who has no trouble getting dates. I just never make it past the first or second one. I pay for dinner, send flowers the following day and try to say all the right things according to the "what a good boyfriend should be" handbook. Although I'm a seriouslooking guy, I'm good at adapting my personality to fit a situation, and on dates, I'm all smiles. So why, after more than 20 dates, am I still single?

Dear Baf: If all goes well on the first date, the message you should be sending is "I'd like to get to know you better," not "I'll soon be contacting your father to see if he'd take a herd of goats and a couple of camels for your hand in marriage.

Just because a lot of men go all out wining and dining a woman on the first date doesn't mean it's a good idea. Are you normally in the habit of rewarding near strangers with free dinner? You may as well yell to some random person you ASK THE ADVICE GODDESS



AMY ALKON

pass on the street, "Hey, dude, lemme take you out for a steak!"

You might get away with the dinner bribe if you didn't speeddial 1-800-FLOWERS the very next day — expressing your "deep and abiding affection" for a woman you barely know. But, even without auto-flowering, your "Hi, I'm Johnny Anybody You Want Me To Be" habit of performing a personality-ectomy on yourself says it all: "I am a generic carrier of the Y chromosome, most noteworthy for my crushing desire to be loved by that special somebody... anybody." Mmmm, dreamy.

Be a rock, not a mudslide. Surelv. vou have a few opinions: Capital should also consider what you want in a woman (beyond a woman who wants you).

"All the right things" to say are things that reflect what you think. The point of dating is discovering whether you connect with a woman based on that stuff, not convincing her you'll shell out the G.N.P. of Liechtenstein if only she'll see you again.

Wash the phony smile off your face, ditch the handbook, and be real. This doesn't mean delving into why you think Mommy loved Billy better or laying out a detailed mental health case history of your family tree. If you're a serious guy, be a seri-

ous guy. Not every woman wants Bozo the Clown. If you're rejected, take it as a sign that you should keep looking for a woman who prefers life without a laugh track, not work harder to erase all traces of yourself on your next date-cumextreme fake-over.

At the supermarket, they entice punishment, for or against? Bir- you to buy by offering you a morsel

kenstocks? Comfortable shoes or clever form of birth control? You of barbecued steak in a tiny paper cup; they don't chase you around the aisles with a side of beef. Likewise, the ideal first date should seem too short: a couple hours over drinks or coffee that leave a woman wanting more.

If "more" seems in order, there's no need to spell it out in hydrangeas; a "had a great time, love to see you again" phone call should

"Saying it with flowers" isn't wrong — provided you're doing it because you feel sparks flying, not because vou're desperate to feel sparks flying. Any gift you give should tell a woman "I get you!" not "Stick around for your free Juiceman on date three!" You want her to be with you because she goes for The Serious Guy, not because you're the next best thing to a knock on the door from Publishers Clearing House.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., No. 280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail.

 $\hbox{E-mail advice amy@aol.com}$

may be an accident

Continued from Page 1E

Help late in high school

Crystal Ronguillo wasn't looking for a mentor when she signed up for a co-op work program at Haltom High School. What she found was both a mentor and a window on a whole new set of opportunities.

Through the program, Ms. Ronquillo went to work for Winston Services Inc. in Fort Worth, which provides architectural plan review and inspections for businesses. There, she met the company's owner, Cherryl J. Peterman,

At the time, Ms. Ronquillo didn't have a clear idea of what she would do after high school, but working for Ms. Peterman and the women on her staff opened Ms. Ronquillo's eyes to new possibili-

"The first thing I saw was that every single one of these women that works here has a college degree. And that right there just gave me a push to say, 'Hey, maybe I can do that, too," she says.

From the beginning, Ms. Peterman saw something special in Ms. Ronquillo.

"She was very enthusiastic. That was good. She had a great attitude, awesome. She's just so smart," she says

Ms. Ronquillo loved the job so much, she asked to be hired full time after graduation. But Ms. Peterman would have none of that.

"I decided she was too smart to

keep working here full time and that she needed to go to college,' she says. "She begged me to keep working full time. ... And I said, 'No, you may not. You're going to work 25 hours a week, and you're going to go to college. I'll pay for it, but that's what you're going to have to do.'

Ms. Ronquillo, now 18, attends Tarrant County Junior College, where she's working on an associate degree in office administration. After that, she's planning to transfer to the University of Texas at Arlington to get a bachelor's degree. She continues to work part time for Winston Services, where she receives tuition reimbursement for the classes she takes.

The second youngest of four siblings, Ms. Ronquillo is the first in her immediate family to attend college, and initially, she says, her mom was skeptical about her de-

"At first she was like, 'Yeah, you know you're not going to do it.' But then that gave me the extra push to say, 'OK, I'm going to do it. I'm going to prove them wrong, she says. "Now my mom is actually very proud."

Ms. Ronquillo credits Ms. Peterman with helping give her direction and a start in the business

"She mentors me about the whole business, how to deal with clients, how to do inspections. She's shown me everything," she says. "She's not only a good men-

See **MENTORED** Page 3E

Friend needs support network

Continued from Page 1E

lawyer immediately.

Make a list of all threats and harassment daily from this guy

Your friend's employer should be notified of the calls with instructions to block and forward future calls from him to a security department.

A support network, as Lily suggested, is a great idea. Keep your help. friend mobile from place to place and on a buddy system until the situation is resolved.

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A call to immigration authorities is also warranted at this point.

Catherine: Danny and Lily touched on some very good basics. It is important to reiterate that abusive relationships should not be handled alone.

So to your friend, and to anyone reading this column, please know that abuse of any kind (physical, verbal, emotional) is never OK.

The first step is to ask for

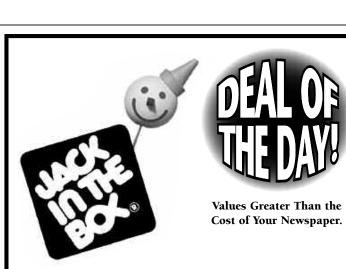
Most women's shelters offer free counseling for women in abusive situations.

There are resources in almost every city that specialize in these kinds of matters.

Their help ranges from secretly relocating victims to just offering advice. (Try typing "women's shelter" and your city into any Internet search engine.)

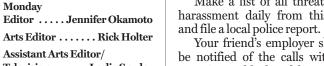
Everyone's situation is different, but know that there are organizations and people specially trained to help.

Thank you for sharing your friend's situation. Recognizing abuse is the first step toward safety and healing.



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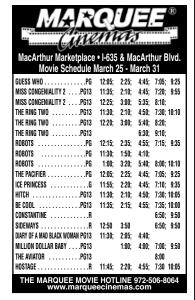
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Mentored entrepreneur now tries to help others

Continued from Page 2E

tor in business; she's a good mentor in personal life, also.

One of the things that most impressed her most about Winston Services, Ms. Ronquillo says, is that it is woman-owned.

"I don't work for a man. I work for a woman that owns a business, and that to me is very, very impressive," she says.

Starting a business

Demetria L. Wise has never been shy about asking for advice.

In the seven years since she founded Wise Business Services Inc. in Dallas, the 41-year-old entrepreneur has sought — and received — guidance from small business support groups, chief executives of Fortune 500 companies, even Ross Perot. And her business is stronger because of it. Most recently, Ms. Wise has found a mentor in John R. Wallace, 38, purchasing manager with Electronic Data Systems Corp.

The oldest of eight children, Ms. Wise studied nursing in college and then worked in the corporate world before deciding to start her business offering document storage and retrieval.

"It was a total disaster to start out with," she says. She found a first client, but the software didn't work as it was supposed to and the $\,$ job took much longer than she had hoped.

"It took literally nine months, and here I had like over a hundred boxes of these people's information, and I was like, What am I going to do?'

But Ms. Wise didn't give up. A better software provider enabled her to turn jobs around faster, and her client base started to grow. Still, she realized she needed help to get the fledgling business off the

stepped out there doing document she says.

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RESOURCES

To find a mentor, check with your college's alumni organization and with professional organizations for your field. Check also with your city's chamber of commerce and with the local minority chambers. Here are some other options:

- E-Mentoring Network for Women in Engineering and Science (www.mentornet.net) has a mentoring program for women in scientific and technical fields.
- SCORE Association (www.score.org) has volunteer counselors who can offer advice for small-business owners
- National Association of Women Business Owners D-FW chapter (www.nawbotx.org) offers a Mastermind program for women business owners to receive support and advice from other professionals
- Women's Business Council Southwest (www.wbcsouthwest.org) has a mentoring program for women
- business owners. ■ The city of Dallas' business assistance centers (www.dallascityhall.com/dallas/
- support to small-business owners. ■ Alliance of Technology and Women (www.atwinternational.org) has a mentoring program for

eng/html/business.html) provide

- women in technology fields. ■ North Texas Commission (www.ntc-dfw.org) has a Mentor-Entrepreneur Program for small, minority and women-owned businesses.
- Public Relations Society of America Dallas Chapter (www.prsadallas.org) has a mentor-protégé program for public relations professionals.

imaging, and I didn't have the resources or I didn't have the people "You know, basically, I just to walk me through this thing,"

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Ms. Wise began to build a network of contacts as she went through the process of getting certifications for her business from agencies such as the Women's Business Council and the Dallas-Fort Worth Minority Business Development Council.

"I just started building relationships," she says. "And with the relationships, I just started meeting people, like John. John offered me an opportunity here. I completed his project, and I just asked him to be my mentor."

Impressed with the way Ms. Wise handled the project for EDS, Mr. Wallace agreed to mentor her business through EDS' mentoring program. They met twice a month and filled out pages of paperwork, setting goals for the business and establishing timetables to achieve

"That was two years ago," Mr. Wallace says. "Then it sort of morphed into anything Demetria needs or can use my assistance in."

Ms. Wise says the partnership has helped her stay focused and prioritize her business goals. "If the mentor is driven, you

can pretty much get your mentor to help you do anything. You have to know what you want," she says. Her success as an entrepreneur

has given Ms. Wise an opportunity to reach out to others, she says, particularly in the inner city, where her business is located.

"Bringing them from that inner city into a company like EDS to help with a project, man, that is putting those people on top of the world because they wouldn't have an opportunity to come to EDS and work with their level of education or their skill set," she says.

Ms. Wise also serves on a steering committee for the North Texas commission that matches mentors with protégés. Her advice for those seeking a mentor? "Just do it. That's my whole Nike thing," she says. She also recom-

Ms. Ronquillo found a mentor in the company's owner. mends following your gut instinct with no sales experience. She soon realized she needed allies to sucwhen it comes to choosing a menceed.

"There are some people who will waste your time, and then there are some people who are genuinely concerned, and you can

those phone calls.' Before Ms. Wise got involved with the mentoring program at EDS, she went through a list of the top 200 Dallas-Fort Worth companies and called every womanowned business on the list seeking advice for her fledgling enterprise.

tell that by the people who return

"I probably had maybe 10 people call me back," she says. "That's amazing to me. You know, once I'm there, I want to be able to help people, show them the way. Even as small as I am, I still can men-

Someone who can relate

LaShonda Anderson-Williams of Denton has risen from an entry-level sales position to a territory manager during her 11 years at IBM Corp. But succeeding in a male-dominated field has not always come easy for Ms. Anderson-Williams, 31.

"My first aspirations were that I wanted to be CEO of this company," she recalls.

Ms. Anderson-Williams started at IBM fresh out of college and

During her first year at the company, she found one in Sharon

Murphy, a mixed Lab-chow, involves himself in Crystal Ronquillo's work at Winston Services.

"She looked like me; she was an African-American female. She seemed to be respected by people who looked different than us," Ms. Anderson-Williams says of the woman who became her mentor. "She could relate to this greeneyed, wet-behind-the-ears person who wanted to be CEO of the company but didn't know a thing."

Ms. Anderson-Williams went to Ms. Coleman with all the questions she was afraid to ask her managers, about promotions and salary issues, for example. And in Ms. Coleman, she found someone she could confide in.

"In corporate America, there's that old adage 'never let them see you cry,' and that's true, but you need to have that person you can let your guard down with," Ms. Anderson-Williams says.

Ms. Coleman also helped Ms. Anderson-Williams with worklife balance issues from the perspective of someone 10 years older who had struggled with many of have to help others," she says.

"Two Big Thumbs Up."

Joan Allen Kevin Costner the upside of anger

R

the same challenges.

"Your work is going to spill over into your life, whether it's taking the laptop home or whatever," Ms. Anderson-Williams says. "She really helped me put parameters around what I felt comfortable spilling over into my life."

Along with her informal relationship with Ms. Coleman, Ms. Anderson-Williams has a formal mentoring relationship with Bruce Church, an IBM director.

He helps her gain insight into the intricacies of succeeding in a male-dominated field, she says.

"He understands the challenges I face within the company," she says. "My perception was that in corporate America, the boys will take care of the boys. That it's a boys' club, and it is.

"I needed to respect that and understand that, but at the same time challenge it.

Now, as a manager, Ms. Anderson-Williams says she tries to help those who work for her get the kind of support and direction she has received.

"Sharon's been instrumental in my development, and because of her and people like Bruce, I feel I



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LANCASTER - DESOTO 14

▶ ICE PRINCESS 235 505 720 940 [G]

200 230 415 445 515 700 730 800 945 1015

McKINNEY MOVIES 14 US 75 @ Towne Lake • Q-Code 192#

MISS CONGENIALITY 2

1020 1050 110 140 400 435 705 735

THE PACIFIER 225 450 710 930 DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN

420 430 440 700 700 720 920 930 950

HITCH 1100 150 435 725 1015

MILLION DOLLAR BABY

220 420 455 700 730 935 1005

MISS CONGENIALITY 2

210 425 445 715 745 1000 1035

10 445 700 720 730 750 945 1020







