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Yukon author puts 'failure' in perspective

■ Youngblood's new book chronicles paradox of happiness

In an era where rescues and bailouts have become common for both kids and corporations, Devery Youngblood believes there is a better way.

"Sometimes failure is the best option," said Yukon's Youngblood, author of the new book, *Successful Failure: The Ultimate Paradox In the Pursuit Of Happiness*. "We learn more from our failures than our successes, but we work harder at ignoring

failure than almost anything else.

"Yet learning how to deal successfully with our failure is far more important than the failure itself."

After searching most of his life for a better perspective on his own failures, Youngblood concluded that no one was writing what he was experiencing. He set out to remedy that by producing the

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most comprehensive understanding of failure on the market today with *“Successful Failure”*, published by Tate Publishing and being released this month.

“Most authors either wanted to turn those with struggles into victims or else take a cheerleading, ‘fake-it-til-you-make-it’ approach. I tried both; neither work,” Youngblood said.

What does work?

“Understanding that failure is ultimately feedback for our heart, soul, mind, and spirit,” Youngblood said. “Though it always starts with pain, its messages are ultimately the key to success. Sometimes the message is to toughen up, sometimes it is to alter your course, and sometimes it is to abandon it.

“Each message is as individual as the person who is experiencing the failure. But today the message from society seems to be more about relieving the pain of consequences rather than learning from them.”

While there are no ‘one-size-fits-all’ solutions to individual failures, there is principle of successful failure that underscores the many lessons and stories of the book: Failure produces perseverance; perseverance pro-

duces character; and character produces genuine hope.

While Christians will recognize this principle from the New Testament book of Romans, Youngblood argues its standard is universal.

“Our failures need to produce in us the habit of always trying again; experimenting and stretching our boundaries to see what will and will not work for us. Perseverance is not the same as endurance.”

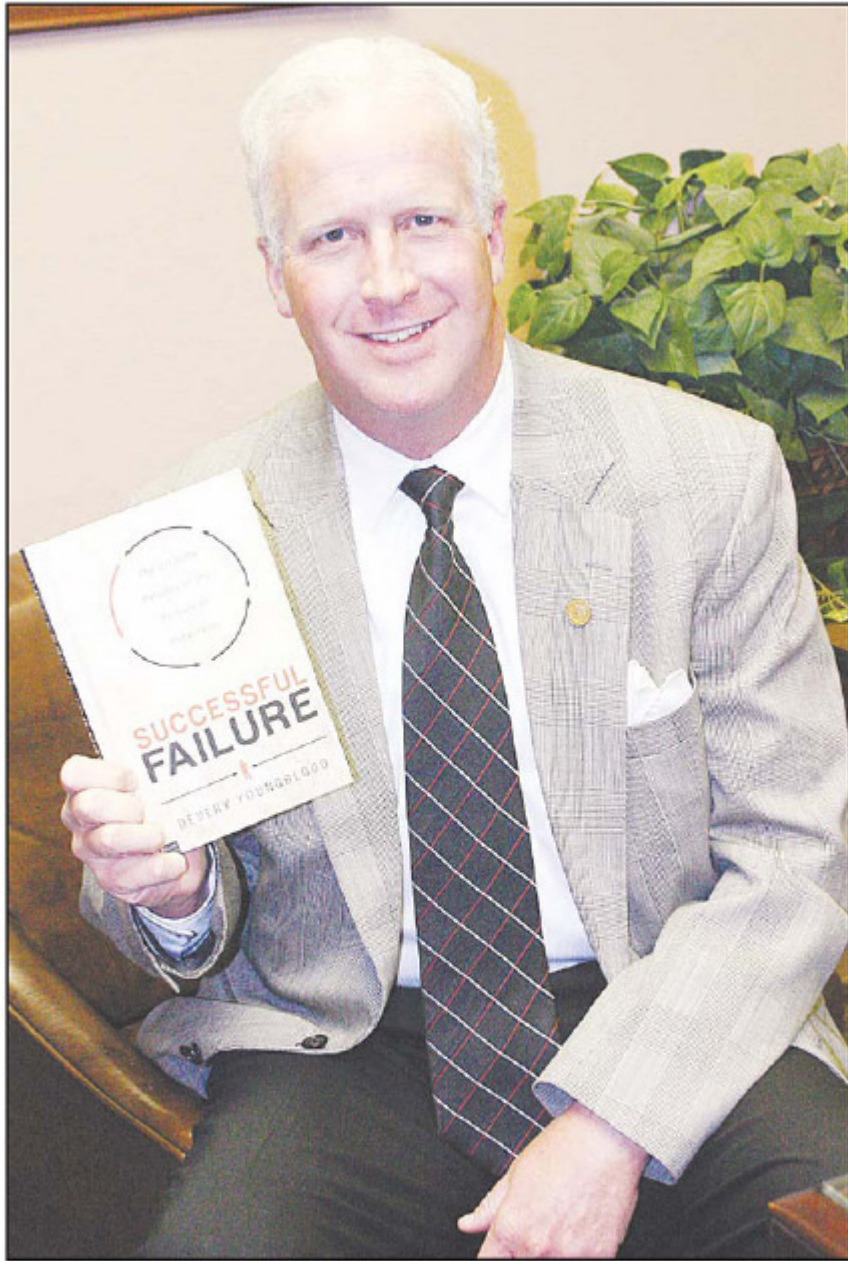
“Successful Failure” has been a lifetime in the making for Youngblood. His own story includes challenges in finances, marriages, child-rearing, career challenges and especially in the areas of health, where he talks openly about lessons he learned from his father’s death when he was 15 years old, his own battle

with cancer and his donation of a kidney to his daughter.

Failures of our own making, failures for which we had no fault and the failures of others that cause us to have to make changes are all discussed in clear and practical ways in the book, creating both a seamless study from cover-to-cover, the self-contained chapters and sections that appeal to people experiencing that specific failure.

“I did not want to write a treatise from the lofty heights of theory,” Youngblood said. “This is a look at failure from the inside - including the struggle, the pain and ultimately the practical guide that leads to genuine hope.”

Order the book online at www.successfulfailure.net.



- Photo by Conrad Dudderar

Yukon author Devery Youngblood with a copy of his newly released book, *Successful Failure*, published by Tate Publishing.