

Signals in the Static: **Dermot Mulrone**y will star in NBC's *Rockford Files* remake. **William Shatner** will star in a CBS comedy based on the Twitter account, *Shit My Dad Says*. **Kate Winslet** will star in HBO's 5-hour remake of the 1945 Warner Bros. noir classic, *Mildred Pierce*. Nike's Converse introduces **Kurt Cobain**-branded **sneakers**. They are a different model than the ones he was wearing when he committed suicide. Bluegrass musician **Doc Watson** turns 87. **Tom Wolfe** turns 80. **Steve Jobs** turns 55. **Jon Bon Jovi** turns 48. *The Breakfast Club* turns 25. *Goodfellas* turns 20. *Real Simple* magazine turns 10. Died: **Viva Nash**, 94, the oldest inmate on death row, incarcerated in Arizona since 1930; **Ronald Howes**, 83, inventor of the **Easy-Bake Oven**; Chicago architect **Bruce J. Graham**, 81, designer of the Sears Tower and John Hancock Center; rockabilly singer **Dale "Susie O" Hawkins**, 73.

US Soldiers are now permitted access to social media sites like Facebook and Twitter. **Twitter** is preparing an advertising platform that will launch next month. California's Ventura Unified School District unveils a \$200,000 plug-in hybrid electric school bus. **Procter & Gamble** and **Walmart** are teaming up to produce *Secrets of The Mountain*, a NBC movie to air in April.

Electronic Immortality: **Rosetta Stone** uses Near Field Communication technology in a RFID tag embedded within a headstone to store your personal information. Holding any enabled mobile device next to the headstone activates selected text or images on the screen, creating a memorial design to last up to 3,200 years, depending on the selected model (\$13-\$225).

Debt Troubles: About 36% of Americans claim to have had trouble paying their bills in the past two years. Women struggled with their debt more

than men, with 39% saying they had trouble compared to 33% of men. People ages 25-44 and African-American respondents also reported more difficulty than the general population.—*Mintel*

More Millionaires: The number of U.S. households with a net worth of \$1 million or more, not including a primary residence, jumped 16% to 7.8 million in 2009 from 6.7 million the year before. That follows the 27% decline in millionaires in 2008. The number of "Ultra High Net Worth" households, those with a net worth of \$5 million or more (not including primary home), rose 17% to 980,000 in 2009.—*Spectrem Group*

What Texans Believe: 3 in 10 Texans believe that humans lived at the same time as dinosaurs; 41% disagree and 30% say they don't know. 38% of Texans say human beings developed over millions of years with God guiding the process, while only 12% say that development happened without God. 22% say life has existed in its present form since the beginning of time. An overwhelming majority say their religious beliefs were extremely important (52%) or somewhat important (30%). *University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll*



*Carnegie Mellon and Microsoft have created **Skinput**, a bio-acoustic sensing device that allows your skin to be used as a touch-screen interface.*