



Spotlight on Power of Dreams

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The Gazette

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On the Homefront:

The City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department has contracted with Planet Kidz, a youth entertainment program, to provide activities at Carpenter Park (6701 Coit Rd.) and Oak Point Recreation Center (6000 Jupiter Rd.) for youth grades 3rd-8th. Planet Kidz happens on Saturday nights from 7-11:30 p.m. offering fun and excitement in a safe and secure environment. Admission is only \$8 per person. A Plano police officer will be on duty at each location for the safety of the youth. For more information, call the Carpenter Park Recreation Center at 972-208-8087 or the Oak Point Center at 972-941-7540.

Saturday, January 26th, the Davis Library in Plano is hosting an Internet class for beginners at 9 a.m. Although the class is free registration is required. For more information, call 972-208-8000.

The Harrington Library in Plano is hosting "Literary for Life Tutor Training" from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 972-941-7175.

Harrington Library in Plano is having its "Circle of Success Homework Center" from 5-6:30 p.m. January 29th. For more information, call 972-941-7175.

Black History Month will be celebrated at The Doubletree Hotel in Plano February 2nd at 7 p.m. The theme for the evening is "It Takes a Whole Village" and Dr. Joy M. Carter will be the speaker for the evening.

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Senators Royce West and Rodney Ellis to host Fifth African American Legislative Summit

DALLAS — Texas Senators Royce West (D-Dallas) and Rodney Ellis (D-Houston) will kick-off the Fifth African American

Legislative Summit, Thursday, February 7, 2002 at 8:30 a.m. in the State Capitol Extension Auditorium, located in Room

E1.004. The theme for the Summit is "Momentum to Move through the 21st Century." The purpose of the three-day conference is to bring together African Americans from across Texas to examine issues impacting our community at a grassroots level.

"Our goal for this Summit is to develop viable recommendations on a variety of key issues," said Senator Ellis.

The fifth bi-annual Summit will include panels on a series of issues, from closing the "digital divide," combating gangs, and college funding, to examining race relations, and African American family issues, among others.

"What this Summit will do is to set the agenda for African Americans as we move into the next Legislative Session," said Senator West. "It also gives persons throughout the state the opportunity to interact with African American leaders from all walks of life, from local elected officials on school boards, to their Congressional representatives."

The 2000 African American Legislative Summit attracted

more than 500 attendees to events centered around the Capitol.

The 2002 Summit will include Dallas Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, chair of the Congressional Black Caucus,

U.S. Senatorial candidate and former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, as well as former state legislator, the Honorable Dr. Zan Holmes pastor of the St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church in Dallas.

The 2002 African American Legislative Summit will also host a contract fair that will provide business owners the opportunity to speak directly with state agencies.

"One of the issues that we face is the lack of African American participation in contracting opportunities with this state," said Senator West. "This contracting fair will give vendors not only the opportunity to meet with, but also bid and secure contracts on the spot with various state agencies."

There is still time to register for the Summit. The deadline for special lodging rates is January 22. For lodging information, call 1-800-228-9290. Please contact Annette Holmes at 512-341-0431 for details, or to request a registration form, or Kelvin Bass at 214-467-0123.

Press availabilities for attending elected officials and hosts will be announced prior to the Summit.

Garland residents welcome 13th Annual MLK Parade

By ANTHONY JONES

GARLAND — Celebrating the essence of Martin Luther King's legacy through his work, words, and wisdom means many things to many people, and that wisdom was brought closer to home with area residents joining in Garland to be part of the 13th Annual Martin Luther King Parade and March Saturday Jan. 19.

The Garland branch of the NAACP sponsored the event that began on a brisk but sunny morning and honored the Martin Luther King's dream. The parade was staged at Beverly Drive across Dairy Road from the Gale Fields Recreation Center in Garland. To highlight King's multi-cultural theme, there was one presentation in Spanish and one in English. Since its first in January 1989 when only nine entrants participated, the annual celebration has grown enormously, according to Gwen Daniels, the Garland MLK events coordinator.

"It's peaked at over a hundred entries," Daniels said. "The actual turnout (to see the parade) depends on the weather though. Our theme this year is: 'Honoring the rainbow dream, in keeping with the dream.'" The parade route went north, following Dairy Road to State Highway 66 where it turned left and continued west on Avenue D. Parade participants turned right on First Street to Avenue B where they continued to Fifth Street.

"Following Fifth Street, we will make a right and that takes us to the Garland Performing Arts Center," Daniels said.

One of Dr. King's greatest achievements was his ability to help Americans appreciate diversity and Daniels welcomed residents to a MLK commemorative program that followed in the Garland Performing Arts Center. The program included area choirs, film and other presentations. Three separate groups were featured.

"We recruited 6-21-year-olds from churches in the Sachse, Rowlett and Garland," Daniels said. The groups were

three of over 100 parade participants.

Daniels also welcomed choirs from two schools, Ida Handley Elementary School and Shorehaven Elementary School who ignited their audience with spirituals and other choir presentations. The evening combined song and film.

"Their presentation depicts the high points on Dr. King's life," Daniels added. "It reenacts the high points of his life. It's set up on power point and it's just something to see - it shows his famous marches and of course his speech."

Later, a community-wide Drill Team, entered the floodlights in a Praise Dance and Steppers' Extravaganza. The Drill Team features members from the same communities.

On Sunday, choirs from the El Bethel Church of God and Christ, Sweet Tone Missionary Baptist Church, and Sims Chapel Baptist Church also performed.

"The Drill Team is a group of young people in a military dress who will chant prayers," Daniels said. "The Steppers' Extravaganza performance is patterned after New Orleans

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Martin Luther King celebrated as a leader in Plano's Celebration 2002



Plano's Martin Luther King Celebration 2002 that began Saturday and continued through Monday evening enticed residents to

brave the brisk air and take to the streets for a glimpse of the parade and other events.

Saturday's parade fea-

tured bands, floats and marchers from various community groups and began at Williams High School and ended at Plano City Hall. Prizes were awarded for Best Spirit, Best Float and Best Theme.

Sunday evening featured "People United: The Power of The Dream", a free program at Custer Road United Methodist Church. The presentation featured the MLK Mass Community Choir, which includes singers from area churches. Dr. Carey A. Israel, president of the Collin County Community College District, made a presentation called, "The Power Of The Alphabet."

Celebration 2002 echoed the words, "Let freedom ring," and honored Dr. King as a leader and a role model for all people. Frances Griffin Brown provided opening remarks and guests included Plano Mayor Jeran Akers, Tom Muehlenbeck, city manager, Stephen Nagy, assistant chief of police, and Douglas Otto, superintendent of the Plano Independent School District.

See MLK Plano page 2

Race, ethnic relations in North Dallas corporations

Many find a link between diversity and productivity.

Corporations and businesses throughout the North Dallas area have different approaches to race and ethnic relations with their employees and potential candidates for employment but they agree that diversity increases workplace productivity.

Three of ten companies responded to questions on mixed race or ethnic origin, current employment or business opportunities and contracts that exist at or with their companies. Corporate representatives were also asked to comment on future prospects in light of the current economy.

Cisco Systems' Sandra Wheatley says Cisco is currently revising their "Voluntary Self-ID" form, which provides race and ethnic-specific information to the employer.

"We don't have that now," Wheatley said, "but we will have that in 2003. There will be a way for an individual to check more than one race or ethnic group."

Cisco Systems employs 100 people in Irving and 1,200 at its Richardson facility where Wheatley explains, "the

goal is to build teams reflective of the diversity in the workplace. That diversity also brings a unique and mixed set of skills that benefits Cisco."

Representing Plano-Based EDS, Barbara Williams, explained EDS' applications are based on the categories established by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

"Mixed-race is not one of the current categories," Williams said. "Also note that it is the applicant's choice to share that information with us."

As a Global leader in the IT services industry, EDS recognizes diversity is a business imperative, which creates a competitive advantage leading to long-term productivity and growth, according to Williams. Referring to careers at EDS she said, "the company's diversity story reaches out to prospective employees who recognize EDS as their employer of choice. Our people reflect the diversity of EDS' clients, suppliers and communities where we do business."

As part of a continuous program, EDS has been actively participating in recruiting events at many minority associations in the last

See Race page 3



The Huntington Raiders perform in the Martin Luther King Celebration 2002 in Plano that began Saturday with a parade and continued through Monday with events held throughout the city. Saturday's parade featured bands, floats and marchers from various community groups and began at Williams High School and ended at Plano City Hall.



The Douglass Dancers provided a finale that included "The Power of the Dream," featuring soloist Michelle Moses-Meeks, the Douglass Dancers, Boys & Girls Club Douglass Branch. Dance choreographer was provided by Jennifer Laws. Celebration 2002 echoed the words, "Let freedom ring," and honored Dr. Martin Luther King as a leader and a role model for all people.



Sunday evening featured "People United: The Power of The Dream", a free program at Custer Road United Methodist Church. The Rev. Christopher Crook, UMC's music director, conducted the presentation that featured the MLK Mass Community Choir, which includes singers from area churches.



MLK

Jump from Page 1

A 1997 quote from Wynn Watkins illustrated the event:

"In our approach to celebrate his birthday, we as African-Americans must also be inclusive. We must transform the thinking of America. We must educate America to this holiday, community-by-community, city-by-city and state-by-state."

And alluding to the words: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character ..." the programs finale included "The Power of the Dream," featuring soloist Michelle Moses-Meeks, the Douglass Dancers, Boys & Girls Club Douglass Branch. Dance choreographer was Jennifer Laws.

Plano's Celebration 2002 gave special recognition to Alpha Pi Alpha, American Association of Women, Chartwells, Huffines, Kiwanis of Plano, League of United Latin American Citizens, and many others.

On Monday, the Power Leadership Breakfast was held at the Quad-C Spring Creek campus. The breakfast, included a question-and-answer session with Plano city officials on matters of diversity.

Saturday's events featured a Youth Summit and a PISD Commemorative Program. Sponsors included the CCCCD Spring Creek Campus, Crest Cadillac, JC Penney, Custer Road UMC, Legacy Bank, Millennium Motor Cars, Phi Delta Kappa, Phoenix Charities, Plano Community Forum, Plano North Metroplex Bank, Starbucks, and Telecom Electric Supply Company.

Dr. Carey Israel



State Sen. Florence Shapiro joined in the Martin Luther King Celebration 2002 in Plano and was featured as a guest speaker.

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Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. —a Person who Dared to Dream

On what would be the seventy-third birthday for Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., His name is plastered on all the 'Holiday' specials and any opportunity to make a sale. Like many Holidays in America, the initial idea has been buried in commercialism. We have become accustomed to many of these as reasons to take a day off or even sadder, many see it as no reason to take off. Since the third Monday of each January is now designated, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, there have been many viewpoints to discount or support the importance of this Holiday.

Dr. King was truly a great personality, preacher and professor, protestor and some refer to him as prophet. However, the 'person' was the important part of who he was has been left out of many of the Holiday 'specials.' If it were not for some churches and organizations that remind us of the words and works of MLK, many young people would have no idea who this great man was.

The King family has their view of when where and how the special words and speeches of the Reverend should be used. Great controversy and commentaries speak on the subject of free speech and the rights that should accompany that. The King family has shown reluctance to support some events and programs that use the personality of Dr. King. There are some instances in which they argue the right to charge for the use of the "I have a Dream" speech and the documented life and times of the Dr. King. This has been labeled 'appalling' and distasteful by many, however, is it any worse than the many special events said to recognize and celebrate his life but are actually not benefiting any of the causes the great civil rights leader would

stand for. Yes, Black Americans, and those labeled 'minorities'—have come a long way. We can go into the front door of the business establishments, drink water from the same fountains, our children can attend the segregated schools, vote without threats or danger (if the law is observed the Law) and we can even buy a home anywhere we choose to—well almost anywhere! All of these things are wonderful and worthy of celebration—but also worthy of deep study and reflection on their importance. They are important accomplishments—as we still keep in mind the reality in shadows behind these reasons to celebrate. Thousands of people are homeless on the streets, the numbers of families with out medical coverage continues to rise. Unemployment, mental illness and hunger are also a daily American experience. We tend to see these conditions and deplorable—as they are—but the idea is these are conditions in other countries—not the USA! If we are blind to the conditions in our own streets, how can we profess to live the Dream?

If our young people act like they don't care about what it took to get 'us' to where we are or where we dare envision being—we can't blame them. The average black child may know who Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is, but it can usually be described in a brief phrase such as, "He fought for our rights, or He was famous for the 'I have a Dream' speech!" If this is what our young people see as the importance of Dr. King—we have truly lost sight and touch with the Dream. Dr. King, the person, was the basis for all that he marched, preached, prayed, and stood for. This person was a true hero but more the fact; he was a great activist, humanitarian and communicator. King

saw the great widespread injustice to his people and those worldwide who were oppressed for reasons of race, ethnicity and religion. He saw this for the great crime and cruelty that it was. The very things that make mankind wonderful and amazing—our differences—is used by many to isolated and suppress our progress. Dr. King was a strong, caring, spiritual and genius human being. It is important to keep the emphasis on 'human being.' If we remember that he was a person, the revelation of how great and gifted he was will be obvious. Martin Luther King Jr. was inspired by the great practice of non-violence by Mahatma Gandhi; however, his determination to stand, speak and pursue that which he believed to be truth should always be honored.

It is our duty to learn about the great person of Dr. King—and it is our also our duty to teach the young people the significance of MLK to mankind. Children learn what they see—we teach by our actions and lifestyle. Check your life with the basis of MLK's Dream:

- 1) Are you registered to vote?
- 2) Do you know the names and views of your political Representation?
- 3) Have you visited your neighborhood school other than to a forced meeting?
- 4) What does your child want to grow up to be?
- 5) Do you have a plan for further education?

If you answered 'No' or 'Don't Know' to any of these questions, You have great opportunity to promote and support the 'Dream'. This is what the person Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood for.

We have come a long way, however, if we don't know how and why we came, what can the future be?

plier opportunities. EDS partners with small, minority and women-owned businesses as an active member of the Dallas-Fort Worth Minority Business development council.

Texas Instrument does not yet have a multiple race or ethnic background box on its applications. However, Pam Ferrell, a TI staffing director says TI follows EEOC guidelines when looking at the application process, "and will adhere to



Ron Shaw

by Ron Shaw

Why is it that we live among so many people who have abandoned the dream that once possessed their hearts? One of my mentors told me once, if you allow your ability to dream to be extinguished, then you'll do anything for momentary pleasure. Dreams are about future hopes. Dreams are the language of the spirit according to the book of Acts. During these days, there should be more dreamers than ever before. What amazes me is that so many of our young people have determined that dreaming about a hope filled future is futile. As a result, many of them give up on those things that make us all strive to excel and stretch beyond our comfort zones. I'm convinced as I read the Bible that God has and does use dreams to give us glimpses into HIS picture for life for us now and in the future. While I was talking with a high school teacher a few days ago, she told me that in her school, she sees hopelessness everyday among her students. She said she has a lot of Hispanic teens who just show up for class because if they don't the alternative is detention or some other undesirable option. She also said there are a lot of African American and Anglo students in her school who although their parents are doing well, feel as though they will never do as well as their parents. Therefore, their attitude is to enjoy life at their parents expense.

The issue here is hope. Hope is always future oriented. Hope always has a dream (or

CAN YOU KILL A DREAM? Gen: 37:20

dreams) attached to it. For a people and for an individual, a dream that has been truly inspired by God supplies motivation for pressing on. There are some cautions (or I should say some facts) we should be aware of that I'd like to mention. When you look at those who have dared to dream and express their dreams among us, you see these fact more clearly. When Martin Luther King Jr. spoke of his dream the fact was that he was hated by some and misunderstood by others. Let's look at some of these facts. He was man hated by those who despised the ideas expressed through his dream. Even though God gives dreams to give us an idea of what HE sees for us and how life should be, it is inevitable that those who desire evil to rule will hate the dreamer. He was a man often misunderstood by those of his own people. Both Christians and African-Americans alike misunderstood his dream. He met with tragedy because of his dream.

Let's consider our biblical text. Joseph was clearly a young man with a dream. What's interesting is, he didn't pick the dream, the dream picked him. In other words God doesn't ask our permission to impart HIS dream to us. For those who live close to HIM, it is unavoidable that HE will put a dream in your spirit. HE's passionate about HIS plans for life among HIS people. As a result, HE communicates those plans often through the one of the ways the spirit communicates in us. Then

realize, that for anything to come to pass in this world, it must be spoken first. According to the law of Genesis, God spoke every detail into existence and without HIM speaking it, nothing came to pass. Many think that Joseph should have kept silent but on the contrary, dreams must be declared. If you have a dream in your heart, you must declare it. It must be spoken. Who you speak it to may be at issue but it must be spoken. Realize that those you speak it to will not always understand it or embrace it. Many who will misunderstand and become envious will be those closest to you. Joseph had to deal with his own family's jealousy over what he told them. Also know that it is inevitable that you will receive persecution over the dream in your heart. Joseph met with tragedy and misfortune. Finally, know that God is a finisher. HE brings in all of HIS projects. Although Joseph met tragedy, God ultimately triumphed. He is able to complete what HE starts. "Be confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;" (Phil 1:6) You may kill the dreamer, but you cannot kill the dream for the dream is God's plan and picture for us. That what HE sees. There have been many who have dreamed and left before the realization of the dream was seen. Therefore, don't stop dreaming. Don't stop seeing beyond where you are. Keep HOPE ALIVE!

Garland Jump from Page 1

dancers—a dance that crossed between jazz and tap but it's done in regular shoes that like the Steppers from Grambling or Southern."

Garland Mayor Jim Smith, Garland School Board Trustee Linda Griffin, District 2 Councilman Jim Dunne, and Lapita Torrez, a NAACP executive also participated in the parade and the events that followed.

Under the theme, "Honoring the rainbow dream, in keeping with the dream," there were three grand marshals at the event, including John Washington, Torrez and councilman Dunne.



Daniels also announced a very elaborate event on Feb. 15, which was tried last year for Black History Month. Already, 184 guests have announced their participation this year. The Winter Ball will be held at the Alexander Mansion on Avenue

D in Garland. The theme for the Winter Ball is "Celebrate the Year of the Woman." Fifteen honorees will be present. For information on either the MLK celebration or the Winter Ball call 972-381-5044, ext. 5.

The Garland branch of the NAACP will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 22 at the Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin St. in Garland. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Clarence Glover Jr., the executive director of multicultural education for the Dallas Independent School District. Glover has served as director of intercultural education and minority student affairs and has taught black studies at Southern Methodist University. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call 972-381-5044.



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month. Some in Dallas and north Dallas area include:

- American Indian Intertribal Center
- Mayor's Committee for People w/Disabilities
- Women In Technology (WTTI)
- Federal Club Human Rights Campaign
- Stonewall Business Association
- IAM Cares /Americans with

Disabilities

"In addition," Williams told The Gazette that EDS "is an active participant at the 'Dallas Together Forum.' EDS' Chairman and CEO Dick Brown renewed the commitment to hire minority employees and to provide business opportunities for minority suppliers."

According to Williams, EDS has an effective supplier diversity program, working with vendor partners to extend sup-

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Education out of reach for low-income students



A new study being released Monday on the skyrocketing cost of higher education says only five states have four-year public colleges that low-income students can afford without financial aid.

In a third of all states, low-income students need loans even to attend some two-year community colleges, the study found.

The findings of the year-old Lumina Foundation for Education have sparked sharp criticism from higher education groups.

The Indianapolis-based foundation rated nearly 3,000 colleges and universities, and said that while at least half the public four-year schools in 40 states are financially manageable for median-income students, those students often need loans.

Only Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Kentucky and Wyoming offer four-year public colleges that are affordable to low-income people, it said.

Critics complained that the study flies in the face of reality: 15 million people from all income levels attend college at two- and four-year schools. They also charged that the study risks discouraging those who might benefit most from a college degree.

Lumina's vice president for research, Jerry Davis, said the study focuses on the hardships imposed by paying for college.

"We're saying students and families must make inordinate financial sacrifices to attend those schools," Davis said. The struggle to afford college leads some to quit, he said.

Davis said he had hoped that higher education officials would use the study to help secure more state and federal aid for students.

The study arrives as the recession is both driving up demand for college — as people look to improve their skills and resumes — and the cost of

attending, especially at state institutions where about 80 percent of college students are found.

The study used 1998 federal statistics on income, enrollment and financial aid, among other factors. It looked at four income groups: low- and median-income students still dependent on parents' income, and independent students ages 25-34 with low or median incomes.

Higher education groups said the study's methods were flawed and could put people off the idea of college or certain institutions.

"Enrollments go up every single year," said Terry Hartle, vice president of the American Council on Education. "If this is correct, there are a lot of people in higher education that aren't supposed to be there."

Hartle lauded Lumina's effort but said it would reinforce mistaken assumptions. Surveys find the public tends to overestimate the cost of a college education, he said.

David Warren, head of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, said the report "misrepresents reality, misleads readers, and harms the very families the foundation is trying to help."

The topic of cost is "probably one of the toughest policy issues in higher education right now," said Travis Reindl, state policy director at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Still, Reindl said it was unfair for the study to label specific schools as "unaffordable."

"If you're going to really judge an institution, you have to really dig into the nitty-gritty of what's happening at the institution," he said.

The nonprofit Lumina Foundation was created with proceeds from the 2000 purchase of USA Group, a non-profit company that services

His duties: Three blacks to top-level positions In his first year in office, Attorney General John Ashcroft:

— Responded to Sept. 11 attacks with new measures that allow the government to monitor conversations between jailed terrorism suspects and their lawyers, detain people suspected of having terrorist connections, question young men holding passports from countries where the terrorist group al-Qaida operates and possibly try foreign suspects before military court.

— Set up a legal team to craft an out-of-court settlement of the government's lawsuit against tobacco companies. Helped forge a settlement of a Clinton-era antitrust suit against software giant Microsoft.

— Announced plans to suspend or revoke the licenses of doctors who prescribe federally controlled drugs to patients who want to use them to die. A federal judge in Oregon has temporarily blocked implementation.

— Added more attorneys to work on voting rights issues following contested results of the presidential election.

— Pressed the civil rights division to investigate allegations of hate crimes targeting Muslims and Arab-Americans.

— Named three blacks to top-level positions; hired cadre of conservative lawyers.

— Ordered restructuring at FBI to fight terrorism and cybercrime and address problems with technology, document handling and internal security.

— Prevented FBI from using data from background checks done on firearms purchases as it investigates terrorism.

student loans, by Sallie Mae, a leading provider of student loans. The foundation is devoted to expanding access to higher education.

engineering experience or knowledge in digital signal processing and analog semiconductor technologies."

TI employees have formed a number of grassroots organizations to help the company, and themselves, move toward the diversity vision. These initiatives are formed around "commonalities" such as race, gender, background, disability or orientation. To date, TI has more than 20 groups at various plant sites.

According to Ferrell, TI is a recognized leader in developing and fostering businesses owned by minorities and women. The company has a firm belief that not only does it give TI a distinct competitive advantage in its operations, but is also the

right thing to do to make the community stronger. It is a high priority and a business imperative for the continued success of Texas Instruments.

A strong minority and women supplier base:

- Increases the breadth and depth of available vendors
- Creates more competition thereby providing a greater selection of service providers
- Adds jobs and strengthens the local economy.

TI's strategy is to create unique partnerships to develop and nurture businesses. We place strong emphasis on the quality of the relationships because if they succeed, TI succeeds, Ferrell explained. Additionally, TI provides training for its managers to build

Are You Taking Full Advantage of Your 401(k)?

Are you getting the most from your 401(k)? Many people aren't.



Billie Meador

To obtain the maximum benefits from your 401(k) plan, you have to make two key moves. First, you need to contribute as much as you can afford. And second, you need to invest for long-term growth.

Let's look at the issue of contributions first. There are very few hard-and-fast rules in the investment world — but it almost always makes sense to contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k). After all, you generally invest in your 401(k) with pretax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your annual tax bill. Furthermore, your earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis, which means you'll have more of your money working for you right away.

If you're lucky, your employer will match part — or even all — of your 401(k) contributions, up to a certain level. So, if you're not contributing enough to your 401(k) to qualify for the full matching amount, you are literally "walking away" from money that's being offered to you. And that's never a good move.

Now, let's look at the other important move you could make to reap the greatest benefit from your 401(k): investing for long-term growth.

Many people mistakenly treat their 401(k) plans as short-term investment vehicles, and they become overly concerned with the market's daily and monthly price swings. As a result, when deciding which 401(k) options to invest in, they pour too many dollars into very conservative choices, such as money market accounts.

If you start contributing to your 401(k) when you're in your 20s and 30s, you've got several decades of investing ahead of you. Because of this, you may want to consider putting the bulk of your 401(k) money into growth accounts, which are made up largely of stocks.

At first glance, that may sound like a risky strategy, given that stocks are more volatile than other types of investments. However, these price fluctuations tend to smooth out over time — so the longer you hold stocks in your 401(k), the less

likely you are to lose money. Conversely, stocks have historically appreciated much more than any other type of asset class, such as bonds, money market accounts and government securities.

Of course, to maintain this strategy, you may have to overlook the short-term price swings that will come your way. Some months, you may not want to even look at your 401(k) statement — so don't. Remember, you're not investing for next week, next month or next year — you're investing for decades down the line.

As you get closer to retirement, you may want to gradually move some of your 401(k) money into more conservative vehicles — but don't do it too soon. If you give your investments the time they need to grow, your patience may ultimately be rewarded.

Billie Meador is an Investment Representative for Edward Jones. She can be reached at 972-208-5688 or toll free 888-758-0950.

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Annual Black History Program

The Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 1308 Wilcox, McKinney, TX Annual Black History Program will be held on Sunday, February 10th at 3:30 p.m. featuring New Arts Six, a classically trained performing arts ensemble dedicated to the musical interpretation of its African-American heritage and devoted to the preservation of African-American music, poetry and literature. The program is free and open to the public. Visit the website at www.saintmarkbc.com or call the church office at 972-542-6178 for additional information.

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Coretta Scott King

After her husband's assassination, Coretta Scott King made a swift transition from a dedicated wife and parent living in comparative seclusion to a dynamic civil rights and peace crusader in her own right. During her husband's life, she accommodated herself to the mother/wife role; with him gone, it seemed imperative that she carry on his life's work and perpetuate his ideals actively and publicly.

Born one of three children on April 27, 1927, Mrs. King is a native of Heiberger, Alabama. During the Depression she was forced to contribute to the family income by hoeing and picking cotton, but she resolved early to overcome adversity, seek treatment as an equal, and struggle to achieve a sound education.

In 1945 she entered Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio on a scholarship, majoring in education and music. A teaching career appealed to her, but she became badly disillusioned when she was not allowed to do her practice teaching in the public schools of the town. No black had ever taught there, and she was not destined to be the first to break the tradition.

Musical training in voice and on piano absorbed much of her time, with the result that, upon graduation, she decided to continue her studies at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, attending on a modest fellowship which covered tuition but made part-time work a necessity. Paradoxically, her financial situation improved when she began receiving state aid from Alabama. (Such aid was available to blacks studying outside the state, but not for black applicants seeking to attend schools within the state itself.)

Her meeting with Martin Luther King thrust her into a whirlwind romance, and also presented her with the opportunity to marry an exceptional young minister whose intense convictions and concern for humanity brought her a measure of rare self-realization early in life. Sensing his incredible dynamism, she suffered no regrets at the prospect of relinquishing her own possible career.

Completing her studies in 1954, Mrs. King moved back South with her husband, who became pastor of Drexel Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Within a year, King had led the Montgomery bus boycott, and given birth to a new era of civil rights agitation. Two years later, he was the head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

By 1964 Mrs. King was the mother of four children: Yolanda (born 1955); Martin Luther, III (born 1957); Dexter Scott (born 1961); and Bernice Albertine (born 1963).

Over the years, Mrs. King did some teaching and fundraising work for SCLC, becoming more accustomed to the limelight, particularly after her trip to Oslo in 1964. Such exposure, however, gave her the strength, the courage, and the

determination to deal with the assassination, and, later, to deliver the speeches her had drafted in rough form.

Her speech on Solidarity Day, June 19, 1968, is often identified as a prime example of her emergence from the shadow of her husband's memory. In it, she called upon American women to "unite and form a solid block of women power" to fight the three evils of racism, poverty, and war.

Much of her subsequent activity revolved around building plans for the creation of a Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Atlanta. Mrs. King later published a book of reminiscences, *My Life With Martin Luther King Jr.*

In 1982, 14 years after her husband's death, Mrs. King remains an eloquent and respected spokesperson on behalf of black causes and non-violent philosophy. Her children are grown and carving their own careers, and she devotes most of her time to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Social Change in Atlanta, which has grown into a well-respected institution visited by persons from across the world.

"We are simply seeking to bring into full realization the American dream—a dream yet unfulfilled. A dream of equality of opportunity, of privilege and property widely distributed; a dream of a land where men no longer argue that the color of a man's skin determines the content of his character; the dream of a land where every man will respect the dignity and worth of human personality—this is the dream. When it is realized, the jangling discords of our nation will be transformed into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood, and men everywhere will know that America is truly the land of the free and home of the brave."

The Coretta Scott King Award is presented annually by the Coretta Scott King Task Force of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table. Recipients are authors and illustrators of African descent whose distinguished books promote an understanding and appreciation of the "American Dream."

The Award commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and honors his widow, Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination in continuing the work for peace and world brotherhood. Winners of the Coretta Scott King Award receive a framed citation, an honorarium, and a set of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* or *World Book Encyclopedias*.

Coretta Scott King Award books are chosen by a seven-member national award jury. The CSK Award Jury also chooses The Coretta Scott King New Talent Award winners. These books affirm new talent and offer visibility to excellence in writing or illustration at the beginning of a career as a published book creator.

"I will always be out here doing the things I do, and I'm not going to stop talking about Martin and promoting what I think is important in terms of

teaching other people, particularly young people, his meaning so they can live in such a way to make a contribution to our advancement and progress."

"Martin and I were soul mates. When he died, a part of me died... The nation may have lost a great leader, but I lost a husband. My children lost their father. We paid the ultimate price."

Most recognizable as wife of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., Coretta Scott King is a notable author and activist in her own right. Born on April 27, 1927 in Heiberger, Alabama, her family's cotton farm was hit hard by the Depression. Her experience of poverty early on made her value the opportunities education would bring, and she was an excellent scholar and musician throughout high school. She earned a scholarship at Antioch College, where she completed degrees in education and music. When she could not realize her dreams of becoming a teacher due to racial barriers in her hometown, she went to the New England Conservatory of Music to continue her studies of voice and piano. It was there that she met Martin Luther King, Jr., who told her early on in their relationship that she had all the qualities he desired in a wife: beauty, character, personality, and intelligence. The two were married on June 18, 1953, not long after they met.

The two then moved to Montgomery, Alabama, when Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. accepted a position as pastor of a local church. In 1955, their first child was born, and three others soon followed. Coretta was a devoted mother and wife, having put aside her own aspirations when she married. It wasn't always easy, for privacy was not a part of their lives. Martin was embroiled in the struggle for civil rights, and the FBI kept close tabs on the Kings. Their household was often the center of his crusades, which virtually eliminated any degree of normalcy they might have preserved. King accepted these challenges with patience and dignity. "...I didn't complain. I understood what was at stake." Despite the hectic life they led, family was always a priority for Dr. King, and they were happy in Montgomery. That happiness was shattered when a gunshot ended the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968.

After his death, Coretta carried on her husband's work with passion and conviction. When the King Center was founded in 1968, she had the perfect medium to spread his dream. Coretta's difficult past, both before and during her life with Dr. King, inspired her to make a difference. Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, longtime friend of the Kings and chairperson of the National Political Congress of Black Women, said of King, "She is the heartbeat, she carried on his legacy. She has helped to make it live... She is just a supreme role model for all women to follow and continues to be one of the most admired women of the world."

The Dream Still Lives

"I will always be out here doing the things I do, and I'm not going to stop talking about Martin and promoting what I think is important in terms of teaching other people, particularly young people, his meaning so they can live in such a way to make a contribution to our advancement and progress. Martin and I were soul mates. When he died, a part of me died... The nation may have lost a great leader, but I lost a husband. My children lost their father. We paid the ultimate price."

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The dream still lives on through Coretta Scott King.

Smithsonian exhibit celebrates the legacy, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

A Smithsonian exhibit celebrating the legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. opened this month, coinciding with what would have been the civil rights leader's 73rd birthday.

"In the Spirit of Martin: The Living Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," a collection of 120 works by more than 100 artists who carry on King's spirit through their art, will be at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

The exhibit will travel to six

cities, including Minneapolis, over the next two years, said Anna Cohn, director of The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

The show features work by Norman Rockwell as well as lesser-known artists like 73-year-old Thornton Dial, who was born to a sharecropping family on an Alabama plantation and worked for more than 30 years as a steelworker.

Dial's sculpture "Slave Ship" uses raw materials like scrap metal, rope and canvas.

Dial said he sees King everywhere in the historical and continuing struggle for equality.

"He said things would happen, he said black children and white children would shake hands," Dial said. "I'm just proud to see it."

Steven Kasher, the exhibit's curator of photography, said he has worked on nearly 10 exhibits dealing with civil rights and the relevancy never changes.

"These are issues in our

See Smithsonian page 6

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Wellness

Operation, a first for Texas

Insulin-producing cells from the pancreas

A woman with severe diabetes appeared to be producing insulin on her own after an experimental transplant at The Methodist Hospital in Houston.

Surgeons on Wednesday took insulin-producing cells from the pancreas of an organ donor and transplanted them a day later into the liver of Jeanne Weido, a 36-year-old Houston woman with Type I diabetes, the most dangerous form of the disease.

Thirty-six hours after the operation, Weido's blood sugar seemed to be under control, indicating that the 391,000 transplanted cells were functioning, said Dr. John Goss, principal investigator of the dia-

betes study and an associate professor of surgery at Baylor College of Medicine.

"I am feeling great," Weido told the Houston Chronicle from her hospital room on Friday night. "And it is a strange sensation to not have diabetes. Words cannot express the joy. Even if I am diabetes-free for one day _ which I was _ it was a treat and a blessing."

The operation was a first for Texas, according to Methodist.

Methodist and Baylor College of Medicine received approval from the Food and Drug Administration, which oversees clinical trials, to perform the surgery on 10 patients this year.

Dr. Charles Brunicaardi, chairman of surgery at Baylor and chief of surgery at Methodist, has been awaiting the chance to do an islet transplant since researchers at University of Alberta in Edmonton reported in 2000 that the operation had allowed eight patients to stop taking insulin injections. The key to the breakthrough was a new, steroid-free combination of anti-rejection drugs.

More than three dozen patients have undergone the procedure in Alberta and at University of Miami, Goss said. He said patients there have produced insulin with the transplanted cells for a year or more.

Strategy

Race for MLK



On Tuesday, Bobby Williams rose early and headed to the stables at Monticello Raceway, as he does every day.

Williams, 37, will make sure the horses he trains are fed and washed and then he'll begin to get himself ready for his harness race.

A regular routine to be sure, but on Tuesday it will have added meaning. The routine will be Williams' tribute to the civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Williams is one of 16 African-American harness drivers scheduled to compete in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Pace at the raceway on Tuesday, the anniversary of King's birth.

"It's an honor to me for them to ask me to drive in a race of this magnitude," Williams said.

The one-mile race, which will be split into two divisions with a purse of \$1,600 each, is open to African-American drivers only and has drawn participants from Delaware and

Maryland, as well as throughout New York state.

Involved in harness racing since he was a boy of 6 in North Carolina — his father, grandfather and several uncles were all involved in training and racing horses — Williams realizes the race is an advancement for African-Americans in a sport where they make up a small percentage of the participants.

"This is another step for us. There's not that many of us in the business that's driving at the present time," Williams said. "If you get the opportunity to go somewhere and drive and represent your (race) that means a lot to you."

The brainchild of track publicity director John Manzi, the race got its start last year with a field of eight drivers. Manzi — who has also organized races for Jewish, Irish and Italian drivers, among others — said he thought the race was a good way for the track to honor King and generate some publicity.

for itself and its drivers.

The doubling of the field in just one year suggests that Manzi was right in his thinking.

"When you put horses and people together, it helps (with recognition)," said Eric Warner, the track's director of racing.

The winner of last year's inaugural race, Cedric Washington, is a regular at Monticello with more than 1,250 career wins.

The ability to honor King and to momentarily shine the spotlight on African-American driv-

ers is an important part of the race, said Washington, 40. He also thinks the race, which he believes will become an annual tradition, could have more far-reaching effects.

"Maybe some people will hear of (King) that never had heard of him and then they'll start to ask questions," said Washington, referring especially to kids in school. "If you get one to respond to it then that starts a domino effect ... and then maybe they'll inquire further as they go on through school."

A harness track or a racing simulcast may seem a strange place for a history lesson but Washington said harness racing is just one of the many places where King's legacy has helped to provide opportunities for African-Americans.

"If it wasn't for him, basically, we wouldn't be doing what we're doing," he said. "He laid the path. He opened up a lot of doors."

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February 15, 2002

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Arts & Entertainment

NEXTSTAGE AT GRAND PRAIRIE ANNOUNCES DIVERSE TALENT LINEUP TO PERFORM IN ITS UNIQUE VENUE

GRAND PRAIRIE, TX – NextStage Entertainment Corporation announced today that Latin superstar Luis Miguel and blues legend B.B. King will kick off the 2002 season for the corporation's flagship venue, NextStage at Grand Prairie. By combining the intimacy of the theater with the amenities of an arena, NextStage at Grand Prairie seeks to bring audiences closer to performers like Miguel and King in order to create the best possible live entertainment experience.

The company projects 150

performances in its first year of operation. In announcing the lineup today, Chris Fahlman, NextStage Entertainment's executive vice president and chief operating officer, noted, "The passion of our NextStage team is to present a diverse lineup of first-class entertainers to the Metroplex in a setting that we believe is the way audiences would prefer to experience live entertainment

today. We built NextStage at Grand Prairie to serve a wide range of programming – from music legends and contemporary artists to Broadway shows and family entertainment – and the lineup we have announced today illustrates that passion and commitment."

Tickets for B. B. King with special guest Little Feat go on sale Saturday, January 5 at 10:00 a.m. Additional artists and on-sale dates will be announced soon.

NextStage also will play

host to The Peking Acrobats, of TV star Jeff Foxworthy and his Blue Collar Comedy tour; Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story, a high-energy Broadway-style portrait of the legendary Texas singer; and Rodgers & Hammerstein's romantic classic South Pacific.

"We are very pleased with the variety represented in our initial performance schedule," said Tim Neece, senior talent buyer for NextStage Entertainment. "Throughout the year, we'll be adding additional talent of the caliber and diversity announced today, at a variety

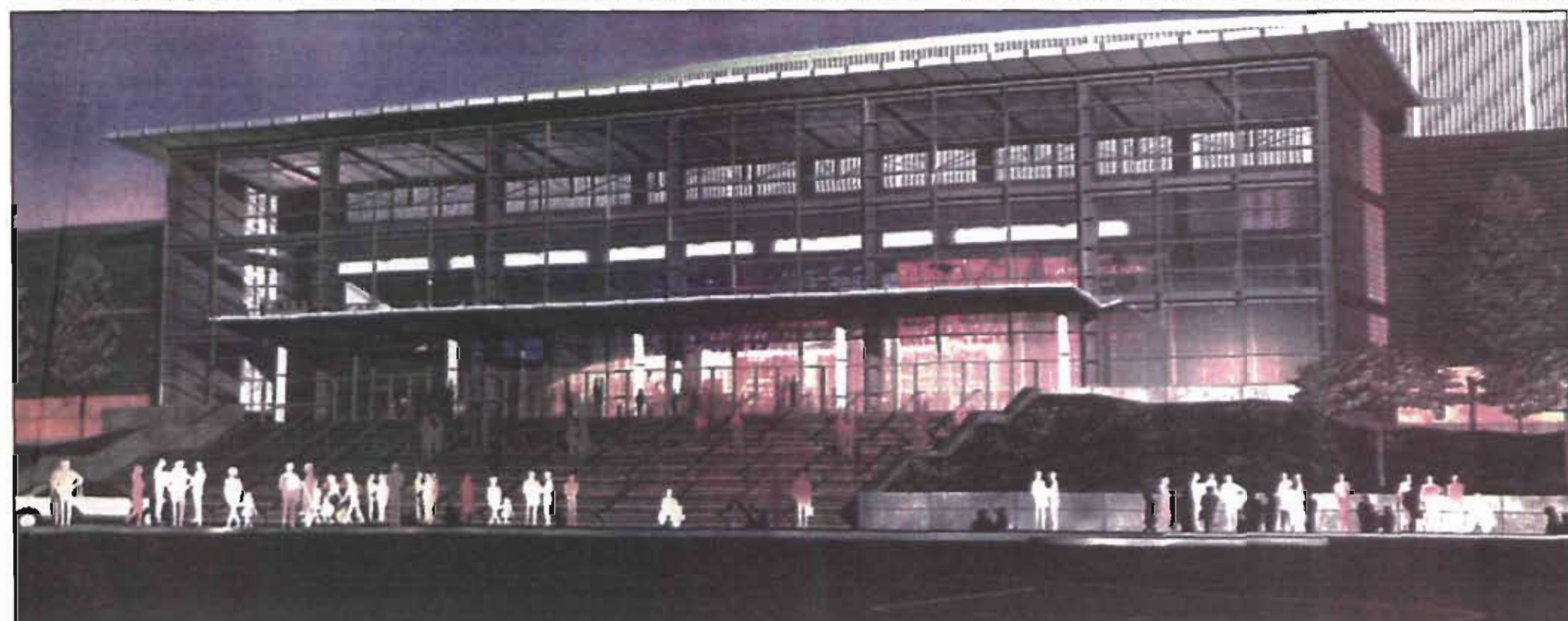
been scheduled.

The venue is equipped with a Broadway-style rigging grid and fly system that can accommodate virtually any theatrical production; four loading docks leading directly to the stage; a production office with telecommunication and Internet access; and nine dressing rooms.

Designed with an intimacy that brings artists and audiences closer, NextStage is equipped with a house reduction system accommodating seating capacities ranging from 2,200 to 6,350; 16 luxury suites; The

ing and easy access from Interstate 30 off Belt Line Road. From B.B. King to Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story, NextStage will host all audiences for a unique live entertainment experience in a venue unlike any other.

Tickets are on sale now for Luis Miguel and can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, by phone at (214) 373-8000 or (972) 647-5700, or online at www.NextStage.com. As the on-sale dates are announced for other attractions, they also will be available at



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whose artistry and breathtaking feats of daring have captivated audiences around the world and sparked a renewed interest in the circus arts; Dancin' with Gershwin, the creation of San Francisco-based ballet and Broadway choreographer Michael Smuin, which pays homage in music and dance to the great George and Ira Gershwin; timeless rockers REO Speedwagon and Styx; the stand-up comedy

of prices, to continually enhance the excitement of the unique NextStage live entertainment experience."

The variety of entertainment genres scheduled to perform at NextStage highlights the versatility of the facility. This flexibility has also proven extremely attractive to event planners for private events, and a number of benefits, meetings and conferences have already

Club at NextStage, a members-only VIP program and private hospitality area; and an exclusive King's Row located directly above the suites.

Additionally, the seating in front of the stage is removable to maximize audience and performer interaction.

Each performance offers audiences a pristine acoustic environment and great sight lines, as well as convenient park-

these locations.

NextStage Entertainment Corporation is the Houston-based developer and operator of world-class indoor live entertainment venues and a creator of unique, live programming for distribution throughout North America. The corporation is meeting the emerging demand for midsize entertainment venues with its 2,200 to 6,350-seat capacity and enhancing the interaction between artists and audiences with unique amenities and intimate performance environments.

NextStage

announced today that the following attractions are among those scheduled to appear at NextStage at Grand Prairie:

An Evening with Luis Miguel
Saturday,
February 9, 2002

B.B. King
Sunday,
February 10, 2002

The Peking Acrobats
Friday,
February 15, 2002

REO Speedwagon/Styx
Tuesday,
February 26, 2002

Dancin' with Gershwin
Saturday,
March 23, 2002

Jeff Foxworthy/ Blue Collar Comedy
Saturday,
April 20, 2002

Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story
April 2-7, 2002

South Pacific
April 25-28, 2002

The Women's Museum

The Women's Museum has been named one of the top 10 attractions in the United States and Canada by the Weissmann Travel Reports. Since opening in September 2000 in Fair Park, the museum has welcomed more than 250,000 visitors. The first comprehensive women's history museum in the U.S. uses state-of-the-art interactive exhibits to chronicle the lives of more than 3,000 American women and celebrates their achievements and accomplishments. The museum is also a place where people learn first-hand the varied uses of science and technology through educational and enrichment programs, group and school tours.

The Women's Museum is open Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. with free admission after a certain time. To find out more, visit www.thewomensmuseum.org, drop an e-note to 411@thewomensmuseum.org or call 214-915-0861.

Hip-Hop

The renaissance is here. Urban hip-hop has infiltrated Dallas Theater with a new wave of artists. Like the jazz invasion of the music industry, this cultural explosion is causing excitement in the theater community and it is here to stay. Blacken Blues Theater's First Annual African-American Play Festival is a showcase of fresh new talent. The African-American Play Festival will be held at the South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas (across from Fair Park) on January 25-26, February 1-2 and 8-9, 2002. For more information, contact Willie Holmes at 972-788-9280, email inforow@blackenblues.com, or visit the website at www.Blackenblues.com.

Lou Rawls

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, with Principal Pops Conductor Richard Kaufman, welcomes the "voice" of legendary performer Lou Rawls for two evenings of jazz, pop, soul, blues, and gospel. The Audi Pops Series concerts will be held February 1-2, 2002, at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center.

With a voice referred to as "sweet as sugar, soft as velvet, strong as steel and smooth as butter," Rawls has been recording for more than 40 years. Beginning as a young boy in Chicago singing gospel in his grandmother's church, he eventually was recruited to sing in gospel groups before he went solo. He was discovered performing in a coffee shop by a producer at Capitol Records in 1959 and recorded his first album in 1962. His recordings eventually came to include one platinum album, five gold albums, a gold single and three GRAMMY Awards as well as 13 additional GRAMMY nominations. He is best known for "You'll Never Find (Another Love Like Mine)," "Lady Love," "Groovy People," "Love is a Hurtin' Thing" and Tobacco Road."

Ticket prices for these performances range from \$24 to \$95. Senior citizens receive a 20% discount on all single ticket purchases. Tickets may be purchased from the Dallas Symphony box office or by logging on to www.dallasymphony.com. For more information, call 214-692-0203.

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Around The Town

Ongoing

The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future announces Alma Thomas: Phantasmagoria, Major Paintings. The works of the legendary abstract artist, will be on display until March 2002. The catalog, Alma Thomas: Phantasmagoria, major Paintings of the 1970's will be available in the museum store. For more information, call 214-915-0861 or visit www.thewomensmuseum.org.

The Women's Museum will provide free computer training in Ronya Kozmetsky Institute. For the Future, the museum's 20-workstation computer lab. The classes will provide free job-training skills for adult women who are unemployed and for those already employed but wishing to move up to more professional levels. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons and students can attend one or any information, contact Wendlyn Alter, Institute Director at 214-915-0868 or ortechdirector@womensmuseum.org.

The City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department has contracted with Planet Kidz, a youth entertainment program, to provide activities at Carpenter Park (6701 Coit Rd.) and Oak Point Recreation Center (6000 Jupiter Rd.) for youth grades 3rd-8th. Planet Kidz happens on Saturday nights from 7-11:30 p.m. offering fun and excitement in a safe and secure environment. Admission is only \$8 per person. A Plano police officer will be on duty at each loca-

tion for the safety of the youth. For more information, call the Carpenter Park Recreation Center at 972-208-8087 or the Oak Point Center at 972-941-7540.

The Essence Awards will salute excellence in entertainment and the arts in the town that has built hallmark careers: Hollywood. The 15th Annual Awards will take place on May 31st at the Universal Amphitheater in Los Angeles. Starring this month, viewers can also look forward to an exciting interactive component for the Awards. By casting their votes via www.essence.com or postcard, readers will select who receives the award for "Entertainer of the Year" as part of the Essence Awards Reader's Poll. Once a vote is cast, the reader will automatically be entered to win a trip for two to Hollywood and join the ESSENCE family at The 2002 Essence Awards. More information is available at essence.com or the January 2002 issue of ESSENCE.

The International Library of Poetry has announced that \$58,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Poetry Contest. Poets, preferably beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 250 prizes. The deadline for the contest is February 28th. Entry into the contest is free and open to everyone. To enter, send one original poem, any subject and style to: The International Library of Poetry, Suite 19913, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owing Mills, MD. 21117. The poem should be 20 lines or less and

include the poet's name and address at the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by February 28th. Enter online at www.poetry.com.

January 24

You are invited to attend the Eighth Annual Mentor-Entrepreneur Recognition Luncheon on Thursday, January 24th, at noon at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel in downtown Dallas. Don Graves, Jr. who is the executive director of BusinessLINC and the director of strategic partnerships for the Business Roundtable, will be the special guest speaker. For more information and reservations, call 972-621-0400.

January 24-February 10

Dallas Children's Theater proudly presents "African Tales of Earth and Sky." Traditional myths from exotic Africa to entertain, enlighten and amuse all ages. Safari through the jungle with mischievous Mmoatia-the-Fairy-Men-Never-See in a magical blend of vibrant costumes, pulsating rhythms, dance, song and the sparkling, spirited stories of Earth and Sky. Performances will be at the Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar Springs. Call the box office at 214-978-0110 for reservations and ticket information.

January 25, February 1-2 and 8-9

The renaissance is here. Urban hip-hop has infiltrated Dallas Theater with a new wave of artists. Like the jazz invasion of the music industry, this cultural explo-

sion is causing excitement in the theater community and it is here to stay. Blacken Blues Theater's First Annual African-American Play Festival is a showcase of fresh new talent. The African-American Play Festival will be held at the South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas (across from Fair Park) on January 25-26, February 1-2 and 8-9, 2002. For more information, contact Willie Holmes at 972-788-9280, email infonow@Blackenblues.com, or visit the website at www.Blackenblues.com.

Friday, January 25th, the Mighty Ducks at 7:30 p.m. at the American Airlines Center. For more information, call 214-665-4200.

January 26

Saturday, January 26th, the Davis Library in Plano is hosting an Internet class for beginners at 9 a.m. Although the class is free registration is required. For more information, call 972-208-8000.

The Harrington Library in Plano is hosting "Literary for Life Tutor Training" from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 972-941-7175.

January 28

Monday, January 28th, the Dallas Stars will be playing the Blue Jackets at 7:30 p.m. at the American Airlines Center. For more information, call 214-665-4200.

January 29

Tuesday, January 29th, the Dallas Mavericks will be playing

the LA Clippers at 7 p.m. at the American Airlines Center. For more information, call 214-665-4200.

Harrington Library in Plano is having its "Circle of Success Homework Center" from 5-6:30 p.m. January 29th. For more information, call 972-941-7175.

January 30

Harrington Library in Plano is having its "Circle of Success Homework Center" from 5-6:30 p.m. January 30th. For more information, call 972-941-7175.

January 30-31, February 5-6

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Cecil and Ida Green Youth Concert continue this season with "Fanfare," an introduction to the brass family of instruments. The concerts will be at Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center and will be performed for elementary school children from throughout North Texas. "Fanfare," with two performances per date, will be held January 30-31 and February 5-6, at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Reservations must be made in advance; walk-ins are not accepted. For a reservation form, call Jenna Odom, Dallas Symphony education associate, at 214-871-4006. Tickets are \$4 per person.

January 31

Thursday, January 31st, the Dallas Mavericks will be playing the Rockets at 8 p.m. at the American Airlines Center. For more information, call 214-665-4200.

February 1-2

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, with Principal Pops Conductor Richard Kaufman, welcomes the "voice" of legendary performer Lou Rawls for two evenings of jazz, pop, soul, blues, and gospel. The Audi Pops Series concerts will be held February 1-2, 2002, at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. Tickets may be purchased from the Dallas Symphony box office or by logging on to www.dallasymphony.com. For more information, call 214-692-0203.

February 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, March 1-3

The class on the Thirtieth Floor of Wayside School has big problems! Their evil teacher, Mrs. Gorf is slowly turning the students into apples. Can the kids get to the core of the problem before it's too late? Based on Louis Sachar's hit book series, "Sideways Stories From Wayside School" promises sidesplitting humor for the entire family. Performances will be at El Centro College Theater off Main and Market Streets in downtown Dallas. Call the box office at 214-978-0110 for reservations and ticket information.

February 2

Black History Month will be celebrated at The Doubletree Hotel in Plano February 2nd at 7 p.m. The theme for the evening is "It Takes a Whole Village" and Dr. Joy M. Carter will be the speaker for the evening.

Community Calendar Sponsored by Southwestern Bell Telephone

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7-Eleven, Inc.

presents:

LIVING THE DREAM

2002 Black History Month Kick-Off

Wednesday, January 30, 2002 • 6:00 p.m. Reception • 6:45 p.m. Program

North Dallas High School Auditorium

3120 N. Haskell at McKinney Ave., Dallas, Texas

**Benefiting the United Negro College Fund, Paul Quinn College,
University Of Texas At Arlington & North Dallas High School**

Guest Speaker

Wally Amos



Founder - Famous Amos Cookies and Uncle Wally's Muffins
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