

# Minority Opportunity News

"Our Ninth Year"  
Established 1991

"The Paper of Choice"

August 15-31, 2000  
Volume 9, Number 16

## MINORITY BUSINESSES HONORED AT PLANO CELEBRATION

North Texas Minority Enterprise  
Development Celebration

← OPPORTUNITY 2000 →

August 29, 2000

Cover Story  
Page 10



*On the Move:*  
Railroad Commissioner  
Michael Williams

*Education:*  
UNT System Center  
receives grant



**MON**  
Minority Opportunity News

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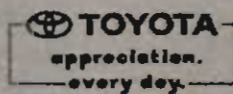
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## Next Edition Features



Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Secretary Andrew Cuomo (left) have released the annual State of Cities Report for the United States. The report provides facts and figures of HUD expenditures and programs. In the next edition MON will look at the report for the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex and determine if HUD has been meeting its goals in these areas.



Local pastors, including Dr. E.K. Bailey of Concord Missionary Baptist Church, will sponsor a new event to recognize the achievements of individuals and ministries from churches throughout the Metroplex. MON looks at this event and highlights some of the recipients of the Steeple Awards.

## August Milestone Moments

- 16 1970 A federal warrant was issued for Angela Davis in connection with George Jackson's attempted escape from San Quentin prison.
- 16 1896 Gold was discovered in the Klondike, near the Alaskan border in the Yukon District of Canan
- 18 1963 James Meredith, the first black admitted to the University of Mississippi, graduated.
- 19 1989 Bishop Desmond Tutu defied apartheid laws by walking alone on a South African beach.
- 20 1830 The First National Negro Convention was held in Philadelphia with Richard Allen as chairman.
- 20 1866 The National Labor Union
- 21 1831 Nat Turner led a slave revolt in Virginia that killed 55 whites.
- 24 1950 Edith Sampson was named the first black alternate delegate to the UN.
- 24 1992 Hurricane Andrew, with winds up to 65 m.p.h., hit Florida and the Gulf coast states and killed at least 30 people and caused damage in excess of \$20 billion.
- 25 1925 A. Phillip Randolph organized the Sleeping Car Porters' Union.
- 27 1989 Chuck Berry performed his tune "Johnny B. Goode" for NASA engineers and scientists in celebration of Voyager 2's encounter with the planet Neptune.
- 28 1963 The largest single demonstration in the history of the U.S., "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom," occurred.
- 28 1867 The U. S. acquired the Midway Islands.
- 30 1983 Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. became the first black U.S. astronaut in space.
- 31 1986 An Aeromexico passenger jet collided with a private plane near Los Angeles, killing 67 people. Fifteen others were killed on the ground by falling debris.

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## Minority Opportunity News



### MON Sales Department

Phone: (972) 606-7351 Fax: 214-905-5198  
E-Mail: mon-mrkt@swbell.net

Ollivette Cooper, VP Total Quality Management  
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## Alcorn's comments cannot break alliances of Jews and Blacks alone

As is the case with most difficult and unfortunate situations, the controversial comments of former Dallas NAACP leader Lee Alcorn and the resulting debates have created a broad array of reactions and sentiments. Supposedly in an attempt to chastise the Democratic Party for its "taking the African-American voters for granted", Mr. Alcorn also stated "I think we need to be very suspicious of any kind of partnership between the Jews at that kind of level because we know that their interest primarily has to do with, you know, money and these kind of things." Of course, public reaction was both swift and severe. The vast majority of the public responses criticized Mr. Alcorn for his anti-Semitic remarks and called for his immediate removal as president of the local NAACP chapter. A few individuals spoke to the legitimacy of his concern regarding the Democratic Party and supported his right, as a citizen, to have and express his views.

The full array of responses to Mr. Alcorn's comments proved that there was an underlying complexity to the situation he created. First, let there be no confusion, MON believes that his statements were grossly inappropriate and poorly timed. Whatever his intent, personalizing his criticism of the Democrats to any one person or ethnic group was, quite simply, wrong. Any person in a public role would be wise to always separate their personal positions from the organization they represent. To this end, Mr. Alcorn definitely crossed the line of his responsibility to the NAACP. On the other hand, we must also recognize that Mr. Alcorn brought energy and attention to an organization that, for many years, was not a factor in the Dallas civil rights and political fronts. While there might have been occasional controversy surrounding some of his tactics, there has rarely been a question that he was a passionate advocate for those issues he believed impacted the Dallas African-

American community.

In the midst of the debate however, there are points worthy of consideration. What is the treatment of African-Americans by either of the major political parties? What should be the screening process that African-Americans use to evaluate those individuals seeking to hold public office? What expectations should we have for the accountability of the elected person once they are in office? These are but a few of the points that, rightfully so, still warrant much review and thoughtful debate. Unfortunately, in the fervor of the current situation, the validity of these issues will probably be lost for the moment.

It is also important to note the comments of Mark Briskman, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, where he called Mr. Alcorn an equivalent to David Duke in that they "share the same white sheet". There is a bona fide reason for Mr. Briskman's negative reaction to the Alcorn comments. However, Mr. Briskman needs to be held accountable for the inflammatory nature of his analogy. There is no track record of Mr. Alcorn ever organizing individuals to limit the rights of members of the Jewish community, nor is there any instance where Mr. Alcorn ran for public office basing his platform on the oppression of Jews. In the absence of these events, Mr. Briskman's comments serve only to distort the inappropriateness of the Alcorn comments and represent overly broad and intentionally provocative comparisons. In an ironic sense, Mr. Briskman's remarks do not add to the rationale criticism of Mr. Alcorn nor to the resolution of the current matter.

Perhaps the American Jewish Congress said it best when they stated, "It will take more than one bigot like Alcorn to shake the sense of fellowship of American Jews with the NAACP and black America." The key word here is "one". Let's hope that this unfortunate event ends the specter of bigotry and generalizations on all sides.

## MED should focus on accurately portraying minority business success

Since 1983, the President of the United States has designated by special proclamation Minority Enterprise Development Week (MEDWeek) to recognize the contributions of minority-owned business. MEDWeek is celebrated at the national, regional and local levels. The Commerce Department's Minority Business Development Agency and the Small Business Administration sponsor the National MEDWeek. Locally, the North Texas Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Celebration will be held at the Plano Centre August 29.

Ironically, the backdrop for the celebration of minority owned firms comes at the same time when recent government reports show that the level of business that the federal government has done with these firms has actually decreased. Due largely to the practice referred to as "bundling", government agencies and federal contractors package their procurement needs in volumes so large that most small businesses, the category under which most minority owned firms fall, cannot handle the size of work required. The net effect of bundling, although supposedly designed to achieve certain efficiencies of scale and related cost-savings, lock out the opportunities for small and minority owned businesses.

In a broader sense, a concern must be raised that the "celebration" does not take on its own life independent of the question as to whether there is anything to celebrate. There are at least two indicators that can be used to gauge the "success" of area firms in terms of their business with the federal government and their prime contractors. One view is primarily anecdotal. This is to say

that, as you consider those minority businesses that you know, how many of them seem to be prospering based on their business with the government or large area contractors such as Raytheon or Lockheed. MON, as an active and comprehensive member and reviewer of the business community, is in a position to be aware of these success stories. Unfortunately, we have few examples to share with our readers.

The other approach that serves to indicate the health of the business relationships is the data and thoughtful analysis of findings. Several concerns arise when this is done. First is the dilution of the true impact on the African-American business when the data is only reviewed for "minority" firms. When examined on a per capita basis, African-American firms are losing ground as compared to Hispanic, Asian and other groups that constitute minority owned businesses. Reporting the status for minority business results skews the picture towards a view that is rosier than should be the case. The reality is that, for African-American firms, the federal business pie is both smaller and they are getting a proportionately smaller slice. The MEDWeek celebration affords an opportunity to recognize areas businesses. However, there is real and anecdotal information that suggests that the party may be coming too soon.

Since the MEDWeek events will go on, what should be the additional focus of the sessions? MON encourages the planners of the activities to give serious and meaningful consideration to the following:

- Appropriate accountability and monitoring of the business exchange

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## Minority Opportunity News

2730 Stemmons, 1202 Tower West  
Dallas, Texas 75207

Editorial Department: 214-905-0944 Fax: 214-905-0949  
Email: mon-edit@swbell.net

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum

Publisher

Thurman R. Jones

Minority Opportunity News was founded July, 1991.

by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

Assistant Editor:

Janel Burrell

Charles West

Intern: Brandy Jones

Janelle Gray

Contributing Writers:

Glenda Goodson

Lakeisha Joe

Delmetria Millener

Jamila Thomas

Rufus Coleman

LaTrina George

Angela Jones

Columnists:

John Dudley

Ron Shaw

Ché Hill

Stephanie Ward

Staff Photographers:

Wallace Faggett

Maggie Ybarra

Graphics Designer:

James Luke



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## Features

# Graphic artists break stereotypes with two new companies

By Janelle Gray

According to statistics most young black men are either dead, in jail or headed in those directions. However, business owners and brothers Corey and Edrick Laney have put that stereotype to rest. Corey, 22, and Edrick, 27, have managed to transcend the stereotypes and barriers often placed on black males.

More than two years ago, Lincoln High School graduate, Corey, and Kimball High School graduate, Edrick, started a business. Aasiyah Designs, named for their younger cousin, is a computer graphic design company. The company started in their home as friends of the brothers noticed Corey designing graphics on the computer. As more people began to request his help with flyers and CD covers, business grew, and they decided to rent office space.

The company is designed to work with independent record labels to design album covers, logos, flyers, posters and magazine layouts. Not only are they a valuable asset to record labels, they also create promotional tools for local urban clubs. With

Edrick's degree in business and Corey's expertise in design graphics and marketing, the business has taken off nicely.

The brothers have started a website, [aasiyahdesigns.com](http://aasiyahdesigns.com), to provide more information regarding their services. In addition to the basic website,

they have also created a "hit list." The hit list gives the consumers the opportunity to

sample a few songs from a particular CD and purchase it as well. The site also comes complete with brief biographies of the artists.

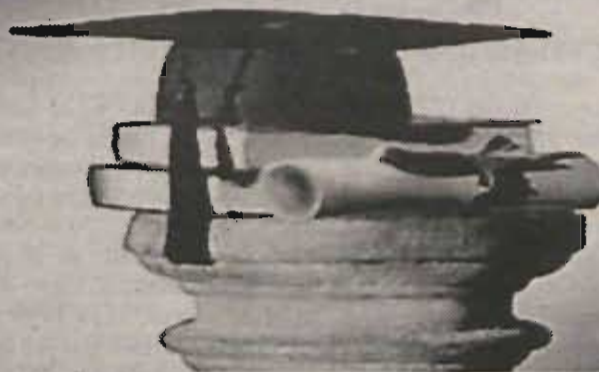
As if owning one business was not enough, approximately four months ago, the Laney brothers started another business by the name of Southwest Mobile Advertising. This company differs from other companies in that it puts advertisement on the move with a portable billboard mounted on a truck, reaching a broader yet more specific market. The 8x16 billboard is backlit to "deliver the most eye catching message to targeted audiences anywhere both night and day." The strategies are designed to operate 12

...continued on page 6

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Contract 0918-45-310 for RECONSTRUCT CITY STREET in DALLAS County will be opened on September 08, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 6058-90-001 for REMOVING DEBRIS in DALLAS County will be opened on September 12, 2000 at 10:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$78,508.38.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract (s) are available at reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor.

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District Engineer  
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## Internet governing board campaigning for new members

By Lakeesha Joe

University of Texas Professor Emerson Tiller announced that senior citizens are being left out of internet governance by not registering to vote in a historic election this fall for the Internet's governing board.

"Considering that people over age 60 are one of the fastest growing segments of our population, it seems ironic that they have little say in our fastest growing technology," said Tiller.

The Internet's governing board is a part of an organization called ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers). ICANN is responsible for managing the Internet's infrastructure and managed by the Internet governing board. The U.S. government recently delegated significant policymaking authority to ICANN to bring some coherence to how ideas and information are communicated on the Internet through the domain name assignment system. Although ICANN considers itself a "technical organization" (managing domain name assignments and root servers), it is becoming the most powerful force in deciding Internet policy.

A domain name is what informs the

public who or what you are on the words (e.g., Yahoo or CNN) connected with a top-level domain, or TLD (.com, .net, .org). Domain names are linked to the technical numbers (Internet Protocol numbers, or IP numbers) that allow information and computers to connect across the Internet. ICANN ultimately decides who will be able to use the Internet by giving and taking away domain names.

ICANN's other duties include billing other countries for management of Internet domain names assignment system, deciding whether to add new web site domains (such as .firm, .banc, and .sex), requiring that the holders of domain names (such as crew.com and juliaroberts.com) give those domain names to trademark holders (such as JCrew and actress Julia Roberts), deciding who gets to register website domain names for others, deciding whether to require persons who register a domain name (website) to pay an additional ICANN fee and deciding how and when Internet users will participate in ICANN.

ICANN, which is considered a private, non-profit corporation, organized under the law of the state of California (currently headquartered in Los

Angeles) was created in 1998. It was created as part of an effort by the U.S. government to privatize certain technical management functions of the Internet. ICANN's job is to ensure the universal connectivity of Internet computers by establishing technical standards for network communication and coordinating the assignment of Internet names and numbers, with its primary goal being to develop policies regarding the operation of the domain name system and the allocation of IP numbers.

The international Internet governing board consists of 19 directors (nine at-large directors chosen by individual members of ICANN, nine directors representing the technical- and policy-oriented supporting organizations and the president and CEO of ICANN).

Before ICANN was created, the U.S. government or its contractors and volunteers on an ad hoc basis handled many of the technical coordination functions of the Internet. However, the growing international importance of the Internet has necessitated the creation of a technical management and policy development body that is both a bit more formalized in structure, and more fully reflective of the diversity of

the Internet community.

"With so little information out there about what ICANN does and how it is governed, certain demographic sections are being left out and seniors appear to be in that group," said Tiller.

Tiller serves as Chairperson of icannVote.com, a website dedicated to informing the public about the importance of ICANN and the upcoming election to select new members for its governing board.

**...continued from page 5**

hours per day within specific commuting windows when the consumers are most receptive to the exposure of the product. In addition to the billboard ad, the truck is equipped with four 6x9 speakers to play radio advertisements. "It almost provides the affect of television in that it's visual and you can hear it," said Corey. Although most of their clients are entertainment-oriented, they are working with non-profit organizations as well.

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Phone: 512-416-2540

#### District Office (s)

Fort Worth District  
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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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between minority owned firms and the federal government and its prime contractors

- An assessment of the relative "success" of the constituent groups that make up the "minority" classification. Perhaps there are varying impacts that should warrant varying strategies to seek improvements.

- A review of concrete and proven

strategies to increase minority participation (e.g. smaller procurements, strong advocacy with meaningful influence over procurement decisions, etc.)

As we celebrate the rightful accomplishments of minority firms, let's also remember that there remains much work to be done.

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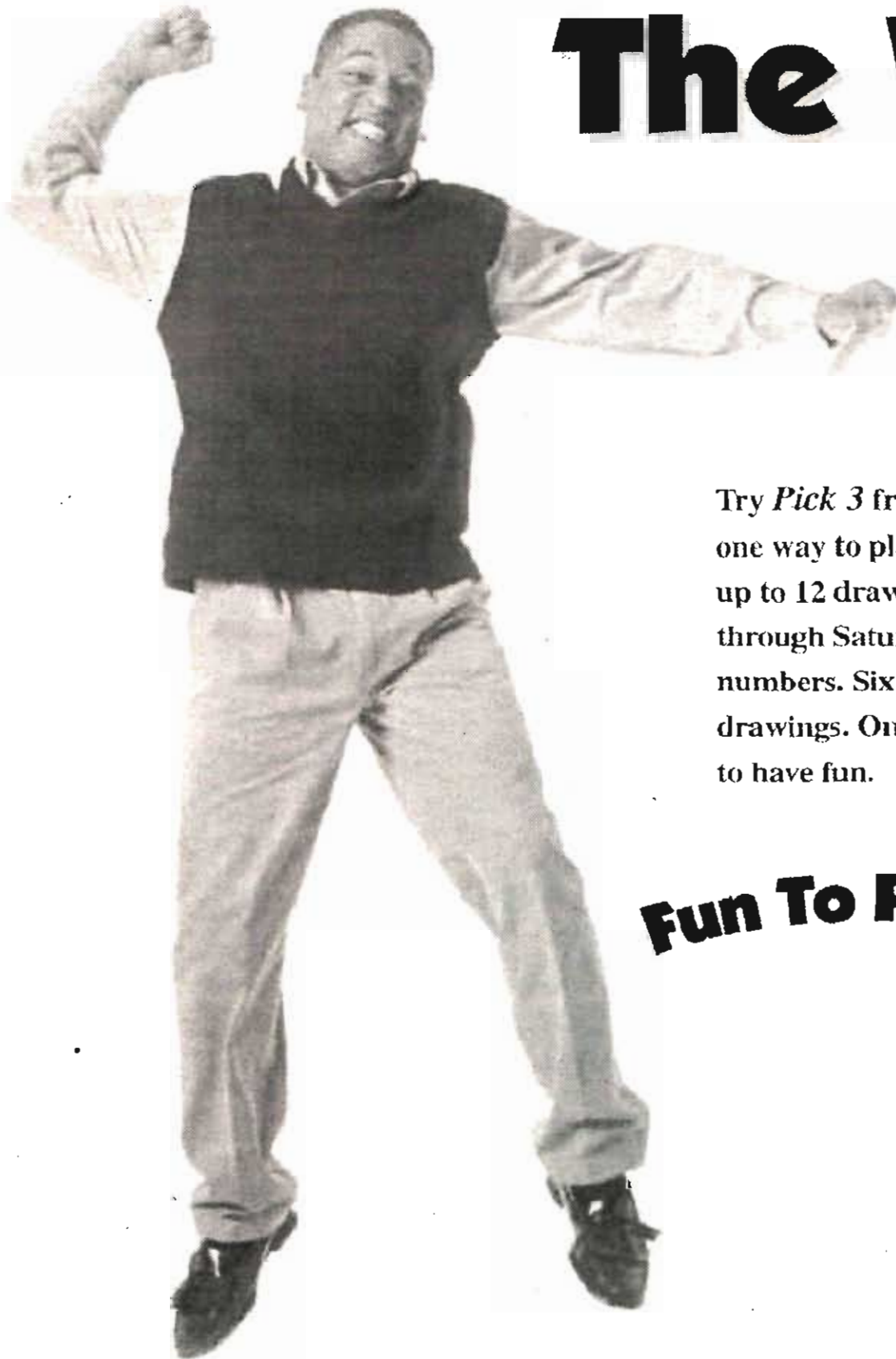
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# Jimi Hendrix: Rock musician gives birth to jazz guitar

By Brandy Jones

During the '60s, jazz lost ground to rock, which seized the imagination of the Woodstock generation. The jazz guitar might have stagnated at this point, but a major influence pushed it toward a new and freer destiny. From out of the maelstrom of ear-shattering decibels came a guitar voice that revitalized the vision of the younger musicians: the wizard of the new electronic guitar was a young man named Jimi Hendrix.

James Marshall Hendrix, born in 1942, became interested in music at age 10, when he pretended that the household broom was a guitar. He graduated to an inexpensive acoustic guitar a year later, and his father bought him an electric guitar at age 12.

Being self-taught, Hendrix was never overly concerned with the "proper" way of playing guitar. He didn't hesitate to use extraneous sounds and effects. For him, the instrument was only a means of expression, not an end in itself.

The blues became his biggest influence, with his favorite performers being Skip James, B.B. King, and Muddy

Waters, yet growing up in a predominantly white neighborhood and attending white schools, he also liked Bob Dylan whose influence helped develop

Hendrix's unique approach. Most young black musicians gravitated toward formalized, Motown-type vocal acts, but Hendrix was broke out without losing the essential "nitty-gritty" of the Blues player, and

went beyond the mechanical gyrations and repetitive vocals of the average soul group.

Hendrix paid his dues on the "soul circuit" tours, backing B.B. King, Sam Cooke, Solomon Burke, Chuck Jackson, Ike & Tina Turner, and the famous twist band, Joey Dee & The

Starlighters. Fed up with the endless one-nighters of the soul circuit, he moved to New York, but after finding the Big Apple to be tough to break into,

he moved to London in 1966. In short time, Hendrix formed a trio called the Jimi Hendrix Experience and in three months, he had his first hit. "Hey Joe" shot up the charts, moving to the No. 4 spot in 1967. Even

with its heavy atmosphere and sinister, spaced-out guitar work, the piece had a genuine, bitersweet bluesy quality.

Hendrix's explosion on the English scene was awe-inspiring. By late 1967, he starred at London's Olympia with Pink Floyd and

The Who, stealing the show from both of them. With highly charged, erotic playing, along with his eccentric dress and hairstyle, he became the new king of rock. He helped Charlie Christian become the electronic guitar of rock. The pounding beat, overwhelming volume and pandemonium of wah-wah pedals, fuzz tone, distortion and other shrieks wowed unsuspecting teenagers.

This was the logical evolution of the blues of the Deep South, which had gone through urbanization with T-Bone Walker, B.B. King and Muddy Waters, to become a new, underground, psychedelic cult. Far from conventional R&B, these sounds had the original sounds of the blues. Unlike Little Richard, Ike & Tina Turner, the Isley Brothers and Wilson Pickett, whose styles slowly become standardized for commercialization, Hendrix stood above his peers in his own genre.

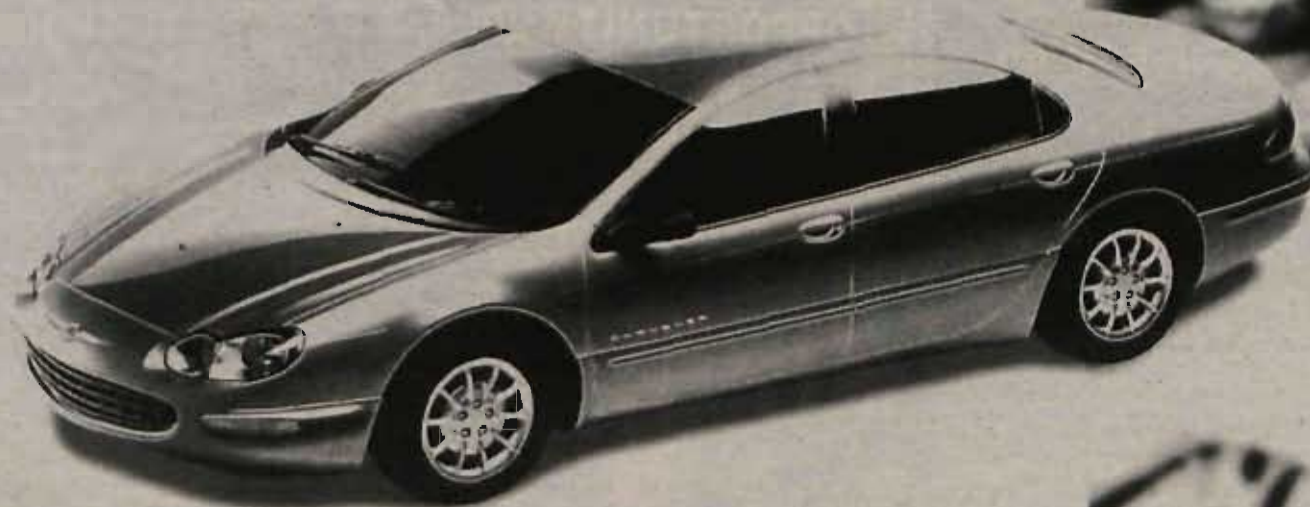
His 1968 Electric Ladyland album contained some fine music, especially his guitar work on "Voodoo Chile," which was straight out of the blues tra-

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# NORTH TEXAS MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CELEBRATION: OPPORTUNITY 2000

*By LaTrina George*

**North Texas Minority Enterprise  
Development Celebration**



**August 29, 2000**

Outstanding minority and women business owners will be recognized as part of the North Texas Minority Enterprise Development (MED) celebration on August 29, 2000. The ninth annual event which will be held at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

This year's event "Opportunity 2000, Building Relationships for the Future", will combine the efforts of The North Texas Minority Enterprise Development Committee, the Plano Chamber of Commerce and this year's signature sponsor, Texas Utilities (TXU). Since its inception, this celebration has recognized excellence in the categories of Outstanding Minority /Woman Vendor, Outstanding Corporation and Outstanding Governmental Entity.



John Pouland, CEO of General Services Administration is one of the featured panelists of the CEO roundtable



Wendy Lopez, CEO of Wendy Lopez & Associates is one of the featured panelists of the CEO roundtable

usage of minority vendors over the last three years, detailed outreach activities to minority vendors, described their in-place mentoring programs, as well as list and describe something unique or outstanding about their agency.

Nominees for Minority Vendor of the Year must have been in business for at least two years and have experienced revenue growth over the past three years. Nominees for Corporation of the Year basically have to meet the same criteria as the Governmental Entity of the Year.

Last year's event winners included The Minority Business Development Agency - Governmental Entity of



George Wong, CEO of Applied Data Resources is one of the featured panelists of the CEO roundtable

the Year, JMC Construction - Vendor of the Year, and Frito-Lay, Corporation of the Year.

Event Chairperson, Darrell King of TXU and Sponsorship Committee Chairperson and owner of Telecom Electric Supply, Fred Moses, both guarantee that this celebration will be better celebration than the past eight years.

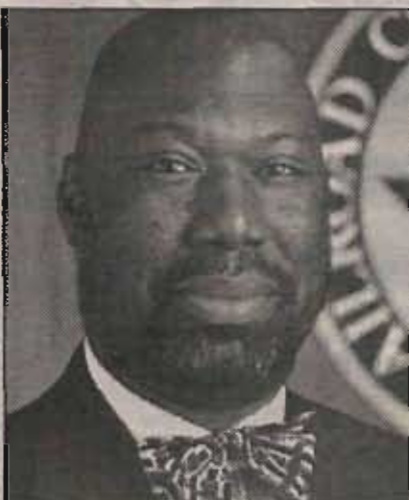
"We've made some changes," says Moses. "In the past, the celebration would consist of one or two day programs including receptions, seminars, trade shows or network opportunities. The celebration is now one day," states Moses, "and we have eliminated the trade shows. We've developed something called Focus Networking in lieu of the trade shows." Focus Networking brings businesses and customers together. "Lenders and suppliers, by appointment, will get the opportunity to meet with corporations and buyers. The trade shows provided opportunities for minority businesses to meet key people in corporations that they otherwise may not have been able to meet. But the Focus Network will provide opportunities for minority business owners and suppliers to meet and build relations that will enhance their businesses."

The celebration will commence with an awards breakfast followed by the C.E.O. Panel Discussion entitled "A View from The Top", in which business owners and corporate officials share their point of views about minority business development. The event ends with the Focus Network.

This "Opportunity" event unofficially made its debut in 1987. Fred Moses, owner of Telecom Electric Supply Company, started the very first program in Plano in his warehouse. "The Dallas area had a minority business community that people were familiar with," said Moses. "But there wasn't an awareness that minority businesses were indeed growing in the Plano area. And over the years, there presented a need to talk about and share the success of the programs the minority businesses in the Plano area were experiencing."

During that time there were a number of major corporations headquartered in Plano that were developing minority business programs. "We wanted a local event to recognize the achievements of these businesses, celebrate and encourage corporations' strategic development of minority business departments, and develop economic well-being of the area in terms of minority businesses."

While the very first event hosted by Moses drew a crowd of about forty people and the only corporation in attendance was Southwestern Bell, sponsors and participants now come from all over the DFW area and the amount of participation has leaped from a mere forty people to over 1,000. In 1992, Moses and several volunteers formed the North Texas MED committee, and partnered with the Plano Chamber of Commerce. The committee became a natural tie-in to the chamber's program of work - business development.



Michael Williams, Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission will be keynote speaker for the event

According to Jim McGee, Chairman of the Board for the Plano Chamber of Commerce, the partnership between the chamber of commerce and the North Texas MED Committee is beneficial for all parties concerned. "This partnership reminds the community that the issues that minority businesses face are real and still exist. But it also serves as a reminder that these minority businesses are very capable of meeting the needs of vendors and suppliers." McGee adds that he believes that MED Week is one of the best events that could have been done for minority businesses. "We are so proud of what Fred Moses started all

those years ago and that the Chamber continues to fight to maintain its existence. This unique event provides opportunities for businesses to network and form new alliances as well as promote healthy business ventures between minority vendors and suppliers.

Past Opportunity celebrations welcomed a myriad of speakers including nationally known speakers and political figures. Opportunity 2000 will follow in the footsteps of its predecessor. The C.E.O. roundtable will feature Barbara Curry, Executive Vice President, TXU Business Services, John C. Pouland, Regional Administrator, General Services Administration, Wendy Lopez, President, Wendy Lopez & Associates, George Wong, President, Applied Data Resources and



Darrell King of TXU is the Opportunity 2000 event chairman

Texas Railroad Commissioner, Michael Williams who will be the keynote speaker.

"The theme, 'Building Relationships For The Future' is fitting," states King. The Minority Enterprise Development Committee tries to tailor the event to maximize business opportunities for minority businesses. After all, that's what minority businesses



Barbara Curry of General Services Administration is one of the featured panelists of the CEO roundtable

want - an opportunity to excel and enhance their business."

# Arts & Entertainment

## Eyeing the Arts

By Stephanie Ward

Hundreds of visual and performing artists gathered in Atlanta for the 12th Annual National Black Art Festival. Atlanta has long been the Mecca for black art and this weekend was no different.

While my focus was visual art, the two-week long program included dance, song and theater from the local, national and international arts community. This was an art lover's dream. I chose the Artist Market Place, which is as usually the highlight of the festival, as my first stop.

This year's organizers moved the artists market from the Greenbriar Mall to The Atlanta University Center. Once I got past the shock of a new location and I started to focus on the artists, I was surprised to find that most of them seemed new. The work as a whole was very good. I noticed that African-American artists are expanding and stepping outside of tradition. Before this event, most African-American artists displayed works centered on the themes of church, family and jazz images. This new crop of artists is experimenting with not only different styles but also different mediums.

Other unofficial artists' sites of the festival included the South Decab Mall, The Atlanta Underground and Greenbriar Mall, where those who didn't get selected for the main festival sights were congregated.

The festival also featured an outdoor African market with vendors offering traditional African jewelry, masks, clothing and artwork.

In my opinion this year's festival seemed like a festival in transition or a festival that had lost its focus. I guess when you have something that's working it's always hard to know when to change and when to leave well enough alone.



Artwork by Buchi Upjohn, one of the featured artists at the National Black Art Festival in Atlanta

### SNAPS

Da New Dirty, a rap group on the Major Money Entertainment label recently released their self-titled debut CD. They flow with southern style flair, similar to what made Master P a millionaire. Their musical production is good, and some of it even makes you bob your head. However, they lack a major element that distinguishes a good artist from just a decent one: originality. They sound so identical to most other rap acts out right now, that they're in danger of getting lost in a sea of No Limit and Cash Money wannabes. The lack of style and true talent is clearly seen as they cookie cut old R&B hit music to quickly come up on an industry hit song. Da New Dirty is one of the culprit rap acts that is



killing the innovation of hip-hop. It doesn't take talent to borrow a beat from a hit song and add some new lyrics, which by the way are uninspired. I mean how many songs can one possibly make using the "N" and "B" word as the chorus? They receive lyrical assistance from Too Short on the track "Playas and Thugs," which is also nothing to brag about. All in all the CD is not worth the \$15 bucks you'd have to pay to get a copy. I recommend downloading it from Napster. Da New Dirty really should be placed back in artist development, and then perhaps they would come up with something worth bragging about. Snaps rating: 1

### What's Happening in the Hood

You can feel the chemistry between them when you walk in the room. Joel Thomas is making smart remarks to Shewonda and she loves it. Their playful sibling-like conflict is what pushes them beyond the level of being good, to the higher plateau of being great. While the majority of radio morning shows consist of crazy DJ's cracking jokes, KNON's ebony and ivory morning team handle a wide array of topics due to the diversity on the show. Thomas Kunkel, the show's producer disagrees with Shewonda on nearly everything, which keeps the conversation and dialogue flowing quite well. He is a republican with strong views about such things as the death penalty. "Live and unrehearsed," is how Thomas describes the show. "KNON takes on topics that no other station will, because



they don't have enough perspective. Topics like race. We're community centered, seeking to advance the community, not just inform them" Joel Brewer handles weather and sports and has been with the team since January. "Good show. It fits a need and more people should know about it. One of the best in the Metroplex." Shewonda Riley orchestrates it all, throwing curve balls on selected topics, keeping the fellas on their toes. Their audience includes community activists such as former city councilman Al Lipscomb, Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, (he hosts Liberation Nation on Thursday mornings), and Eugene, editor of Code Magazine. Make sure you tune in to 89.3 fm KNON the voice of the people and find out what you're missing.

# CELEBRATE

# Events

## NOW PLAYING AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

### Bless the Child

Kim Basinger plays a woman who is guardian of her niece after her sister abandons her. Sister and new husband, both evil occult practitioners, return for the little girl who now possesses extraordinary powers.

### Space Cowboys

A retired Air Force pilot, overlooked by NASA when he was young, is recruited to retrieve a malfunctioning satellite launched years before. He agrees to accept the assignment only if his three friends can join the mission. Stars Clint Eastwood and Tommy Lee Jones.

### Coyote Ugly

An aspiring singer goes to New York to pursue her dream of becoming a songwriter, but finds her dream sidelined by the fun of her day job as a barmaid in a hip nightclub. The film stars Piper Perabo, Maria Bello and Tyra Banks.

### Hollow Man

A group of brilliant young scientists have just unlocked the secret of invisibility. The team leader decides to test the dangerous procedure on himself and discovers that the other scientists cannot reverse the effect. Kevin Bacon stars as team leader Sebastian Caine.

### The Replacements

The film revolves around washed-up football players, led by Keanu Reeves, who get a second chance at the big time when they are hired as strikebreakers. Gene Hackman plays coach of the team of misfits.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Young Audiences illuminates arts-in-education with arts showcase



Young Audiences of Greater Dallas will present a tree showcase of over 200 innovative arts-in-education programs, including 50 exciting new programs for the Performing and Visual Arts. Showcase 2000-A Bright Idea in Education offers a preview of Young Audiences' eclectic roster of dancers, singers, musicians, poets, storytellers, actors and more. The artists will appear all day long while the audience is free to choose from a variety of performances, workshops, and hands-on

exhibits.

Showcase 2000-A Bright Idea in Education marks the 13th year Young Audiences of Greater Dallas has presented a day for their bookers to sample the programs they offer.

The Showcase will be held in almost every room of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, 2401 Flora, Dallas. The event is open to the public from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

### New play delivers a potent dose of reality

Real people. Real life. Real situations. "On the Edge" is a real life drama from actor, author and motivational speaker, Ché. The play addresses issues that real people deal with each day including relationships, financial struggles, stress, anxiety, promiscuity and loneliness. "On the Edge" takes a look at the root of all evil and the unfairness of society giving an extremely potent dose of reality. The play is a unique experience as it brings the audience face to face with the importance of strong family bonds, self-esteem issues, corrupt street life, and yet remains profanity free without losing its

grit, impact and hard-hitting message.

"On the Edge" is directed by Dallas local Anthony J. Golden of G O Entertainment. The play runs September 8-9 at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Avenue, Dallas with evening performances at 7:45 p.m. For more information or tickets call 972-672-8480 or 972-897-8189 or visit [www.ballads-byche.com](http://www.ballads-byche.com).



(left to right) Chico Loud (Chris), Hanson Thacker, III (Q) and Geneva Lewis (Terry) star in the real life drama "On the Edge."

"On the Edge" takes you to the edge of reality and makes you take a serious look at your own life and decide whether you are on the edge.

### August-September

The work of artist George C. Hetterich will be displayed at the Municipal Center, 1520 Avenue K in Plano during August and at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway in September. For more information call Sabrina Shuford at 972-941-7194.

### August 19

The Dallas Museum of Natural History will host a special reptile exhibit 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information call 214-421-3466 ext. 200 or visit [www.dallasdinoo.org](http://www.dallasdinoo.org).

### August 22

The Dallas Theater Center returns with Free Neighborhood Nights Open House from 6-9 p.m. at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. For more information call 214-522-8499 or visit [www.dallastheatercenter.org](http://www.dallastheatercenter.org).

### August 24-September 2

Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Ft. Worth, will extend the run of the gospel musical "The Book of Job" with eight performances. For more information call 817-338-4411.

### August 26-October 8

"H.A. Sigg: Recent Work" an exhibition of works by Hermann Alfred Sigg will be on display in the Main Gallery of the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd, Suite 300. For more information call 972-252-7558.

### August 27

The Dallas Opera and Shakespeare Beethoven & Co. are hosting the 8th annual Opera Karaoke Contest from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Shakespeare Beethoven & Co., third floor of the Dallas Galleria. The contest is open to the public. For more information or to enter call 972-387-1720.

### August 28

Jimmy Page and The Black Crowes will be in concert at Reunion Arena. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information or tickets call 214-800-3000.

### August 31

The 16th Dallas Morning News Dance Festival will be held at the Annette Strauss Artist Square in the Dallas Arts District Aug. 31-Sept. 3 with performances beginning at 8:15 p.m. All events are free. For more information call 972-881-2914 or 214-670-3687.

## HOT

### Robert Downey Jr. stars on "Ally McBeal"

Just a week after being released from prison, actor Robert Downey Jr. has landed a recurring role on "Ally McBeal." Downey will play Ally's potential love interest and will remain in a drug rehabilitation program. Downey makes his debut Oct. 23 in the first of eight episodes.

### Madonna gives birth to baby boy

Pop singer Madonna, 41, gave birth to her second child, baby boy Rocco Ritchie three weeks prematurely. The baby's father is English film director Guy Ritchie. The family has been moved to an undisclosed location. Madonna's other child, three year-old Lourdes, was fathered by her former personal trainer.

### Hendrix family regains rights to website

The family of the late American rock legend Jimi Hendrix won the case to evict the holder of the Internet address [www.jimihendrix.com](http://www.jimihendrix.com). The Internet address is similar to the name Jimi Hendrix that is trademarked and owned by the family and the holder of the site failed to prove any legitimate interest in it.

## Movie Review

### Quartet of comedians light up another Spike Lee Joint

Spike Lee, acclaimed director of such films as "Malcolm X" and "Summer of Sam" has returned with another hit. Lee captures the comic geniuses behind the successful "Kings of Comedy" tour at The Charlotte Coliseum.

In the concert feature film "The Original Kings of Comedy," Lee brings his sensibility and style to the comedy concert film genre, as he documents the individual talents of Steve Harvey, D.L. Hughley, Cedric the Entertainer and Bernie Mac.

"I wanted to see this on film because it has to be documented. It's the best comedy tour ever but it's been under the radar. Being on film would enable a lot more people to see it.

When I was asked to do it, I was in from the beginning," says Lee. Since its creation by entrepreneur Walter Latham in 1997, the "Kings of Comedy" tour

has taken audiences by storm. With an established following among African-Americans across the country,



the tour has become the highest grossing comedy tour in history with ticket sales exceeding \$37 million.

The idea for the film began in 1998 when Latham realized, "the tour was so expensive that I could only take it to the major markets. I felt that if we documented it, put it on film, I could take it to Jackson, Miss., Montgomery, Ala., places that I couldn't normally take on the tour."

The "kings" of the comedy film reign from varied backgrounds including television and film. Steve Harvey is best known for his role as Steve Hightower on "The Steve Harvey Show" and host of "Showtime at the Apollo." D.L. Hughley's career dates back to his early years on "Def Comedy Jam" to his own sitcom "The Hughleys." Cedric the Entertainer has found fame on "The Steve Harvey Show." The last king, Bernie Mac is known for his acting and his comedy. Mac has starred in "Life" with Eddie Murphy and Martin Lawrence, "Above the Rim," and

...continued on page 16

**"THE SLEEPER HIT OF THE SUMMER!  
IT'S SO FUNNY!"**

- Sam Rubin, KTLA

**"RAUCOUS AND CROWD-PLEASING."**

- Kevin J. Walker, MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL



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#### INVITATION TO BID

The Housing Authority of the city of Dallas, Texas (DHA) is accepting Bids for a three (3) year contract with the possibility of two (2) one-year extensions for Business Automobile Insurance.

Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. C.S.T. Monday, August 28, 2000, at 2075 W. Commerce, Building 1000, Dallas, Texas 75208 at which time and place all bids will be opened and publicly read aloud.

Specifications and bid documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department, at 2075 W. Commerce, Building 100, Dallas, Texas 75208, or by calling (214) 672-0226. DHA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids.

The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion,

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# The Wellness Diary

## Health Challenge: Living a normal life with asthma

By Delmetria L. Millener

Each summer millions of Americans suffer from the running nose, red eyes and scratchy throat of allergies and asthma. While these ailments are quite common, most do not fully understand their origin. According to research by the Texas Department of Health, asthma can be defined as "a serious, chronic lung disease characterized by airway inflammation and swelling, bronchoconstriction, airway mucus production, and airway hyper responsiveness to stimuli." What does all that jargon really mean? In a nutshell-when something in the air aggravates the airway to your lungs, it swells, makes mucus, closes the airway and the end result is-it is really hard to breathe.

Many individuals take breathing for granted and cannot fathom not being able to do it. But having asthma is a serious problem that many live with on a daily basis. Symptoms of asthma include shortness of breath, wheezing, coughing, tightness in the chest area, rapid, and/or, labored breathing- "We're not actually sure what causes asthma," says Maggie Kownaski, MPH, of the Texas Department of Health. "But that's an area of research we continue to work on."

While there is no known cause or cure for the disease, factors that can trigger symptoms include genetics or environmental conditions such as smoke, fumes, odors and climate changes. Asthma sufferer Jeffery Winters of Chicago, Illinois notes, "as a child, my problems with asthma were more serious at night. Living in

Chicago, it was nice during the day, but extremely cold at night. The drastic changes in ft weather usually caused me to have pretty strong (asthma) attacks."

Other factors that could potentially trigger an asthma attack include being exposed to dust, insects, pollen, and air pollution. Oddly, exercise and some foods can also trigger an attack. Less common factors include stress, respiratory infections, sinus, bronchitis and inadequate treatment of these conditions.

However in some asthma sufferers, exercise and activity can either pose problems, or in rare cases, improve asthmatic conditions. Winters says, "dust used to be a problem for me as a child, but the more active I became, especially playing baseball, I guess my system got used to the dusty playing fields and as long as I remained active, my problems with asthma slowed down." He adds, "the less active I was, the worse my asthma was. But as long as I remained active, it was less of a problem."

According to the American Lung Association of Texas, approximately 674,000 adults and 401,000 children suffer from asthma in Texas alone. Kownaski reports that between 1990 and 1998, asthma related deaths nearly doubled in Texas in every age group, and individuals over 60 years of age had the highest rate of mortality.

Additionally, African-American males suffered from asthma more than any other race or ethnic background, while Hispanic females had the lowest prevalence of the disease. Other statistics show that Whites had

a lifetime prevalence of 11.2%, compared with 19.4% for African-Americans, and 5.7% for Hispanics. She also noted that 18-24 year-olds had the highest prevalence of asthma, while adults 55-64 showed the lowest lifetime prevalence.

While we live in the "Age of Technology," it would seem that some scientific break-through could cure those who suffer from asthma. In the case of this disease, it is not that simple. "We do not have a cure for asthma because we do not know what causes it," says Kownaski. In her report, Kownaski revealed that in the late 1990s, almost 350 Texans died of asthma. Nevertheless, Kownaski is adamant that despite the mortality rate that this disease claims, "We do know what precautions to take and treatments--no one should have to live with symptoms of asthma," says Kownaski.

In an effort to manage the disease, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLI) developed national guidelines that have become the standard on how to diagnose and treat asthma. Kownaski says the first step in knowing how to treat asthmatic patients is doable, but not easily accomplished. It has to be diagnosed and often the symptoms resemble bronchitis or allergies. The NHLBI has also utilized the Internet and designed a useful resource called The Asthma Manage Model System to educate the public.

The procedure for diagnosis is a combination of assessments such as the patient's medical history, a physical and other objective measurements to determine disease severity and

method of treatment.

A patient's treatment for asthma usually falls into two categories: long-term medication or quick relief medications. Kownaski says, "Long term medications are used to maintain control of persistent asthma and to prevent the underlying airway inflammation that contributes to asthma attacks...while quick relief medications are used to treat acute symptoms and to prevent exercise-induced asthma." Winters agrees. "Now that I've gotten older, I can use any over-the-counter quick-relief medication, whereas as a child, "Preventil" used in a Nebulizer was the best and only treatment for me. My conditions have improved so that sometimes I'm even able to simply place a towel over my head and bend over steam-anything just to open my airways."

When asked how an attack feels, Winters says, "It feels like you're going into cardiac arrest. Your chest tightens, and it feels like someone is trying to give you mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, except instead of breathing air into your lungs, they're sucking it out."

Nevertheless, asthma is treated according to the severity and persistence of the disease. Since there is no cure, the basic principle is to successfully manage the disease so that sufferers can live a relatively normal life. Successful management of asthma includes eliminating coughing and difficult breathing, sleeplessness, absences from school and/or work, limited to no hospital visits, normal activities, and normal lung functions.

### DEPRESSED AGAIN?

The Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center of Dallas is conducting research sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health on cognitive therapy for depression. **Treatment is free.** The symptoms of depression include:

- Depressed or sad mood
- Loss of interest in activities
- Difficulty sleeping or sleeping too much
- Feeling slowed down
- Feeling tired or having low energy
- Feeling guilty or worthless
- Changes in weight or appetite
- Difficulty concentrating

If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

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**Ron Shaw**

## Attitude Is Everything!

*Phil. 2:5*

I recently completed a four week leadership session with young adults ages 16-25. It was extremely enlightening to say the least. I chose to work with these young people because they are assuming the reigns of leadership and being targeted by ad campaigns. This group will change the course of organized business, church, family and social structures as we know them. Many of the attendees had already functioned in some type of leadership capacity. They made some startling discoveries that helped expand my ability to communicate leadership principles.

One 16-year-old said she learned as one of the leaders of her group at school, that not everyone was going to like her or the decisions she would have to make. An 18-year-old said she found it surprising that not everyone believed she wanted to improve the organization but thought she just wanted power. When I asked the question, "Why do you want to be a leader?" one 17-year-old young man's answer was because he didn't like the alternative if he didn't take a leadership role.

Our last session was about attitude. I found it interesting that this group had no problem accepting the fact that it's not always the best person who gets the job or the position. The smartest person doesn't always end up on top. The deciding factor between the successful and unsuccessful is not pay, or people or position, but rather attitude. Attitude is the winner's edge. It's what gives those that win the extra "umph." Jesus was the best example of attitude stewardship I've ever seen. Joseph was another.

Our text says we are to have the same attitude that Jesus had in all things. He got his from fellowship and with God. That's how we are to derive ours.

Three keys mark his attitude. 1.) He was selfless. It's impossible to fail when you make others' interests more important than your own. I know that seems unreasonable but it's biblical. Our attitude should be one of servitude to our fellow man. The reason for being

employed according to Ephesians is so that we may have to give to those who need.

2.) Jesus was secure. Only secure people can lead effectively. The reason is that according to Jesus, leadership in the kingdom is not about titles or positions of prestige, but rather service. Only a secure person can serve someone else who may not have his or her prominence or affluence. Insecure people always seek accolades and the praise of men. Insecure people make dangerous leaders. Jesus knew who he was and what God had anointed him to do. When we are secure in who God made us, we can lead others by encouraging them to be who God made them and not feel threatened by their success.

3.) Jesus was submissive. The Bible says Jesus learned obedience. If he can learn it then so can we. If he submitted himself to men who were not as anointed as he was, then what about us? Why must we have the attitude that only certain people can tell us anything or teach us anything?

Finally, our attitude must be under constant surveillance as well as renovation. It's not what happens to you but in you that causes you to succeed. There's not a person on earth who's not had to suffer some sort of tragedy or crisis or major trouble. We all stand on the same ground. Those who succeed use those as stepping-stones instead of stumbling blocks. We all have to deal with people who are difficult. The difference in the successful is that they know how to turn the difficulties in other people and their own lives to their advantage.

To build a great attitude one must choose to do so. It doesn't happen by accident. One must change. The attitude you have is insufficient for where you're going so you need another one. One must charge into those things that will add and help construct an attitude that will allow you to obey Jesus by having abundant life. It's challenging living today, but it's also great to be living today!

**...continued from page 14**

"Walking Dead" among others. They all have their successes with individual acts on the comedy circuit but recognize that together they have set a new standard for all comedians.

Harvey describes "The Kings of Comedy," "When I speak about us collectively, I use the analogy of the family reunion. We're all uncles that come over to the house. In every family you have us showing up. Uncle D.L. is the uncle that b\*\*\*\*\*s about everything.

He has a problem with everything. Uncle Bernie says stuff that you really ain't supposed to ever say out loud. You love him cause he's real. Everybody

likes Uncle Ced. He can do no wrong. He has a happy act. He's more congenial to people. And of his own style, Harvey says, "I do observational humor about the news, life, race, politics my best comedy comes from exasperation, when I'm totally fed up with something."

Lee shot the film over three days, covering tow performances with ten cameras in the dressing rooms, limos, hallways, backstage and hotel rooms. There is nothing sacred in the film. Everything is up for laughs.

"The Original Kings of Comedy" opens August 18.

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## Around The Town

### On-going

The Dallas County Older Adult Services Program is looking for individuals 60 years or older to participate in their program including a noon meal, recreational and physical activities, health screenings and social services. For more information call 214-819-1860.

The International Library of Poetry is holding an open poetry contest. Send one original poem to The International Library of Poetry, Suite 19909, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries should be postmarked or sent via Internet by Nov. 30, 2000. For more information call Fran Campos at 410-356-2000 ext. 158, or visit [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com).

Miracle on Wheels makes available Power Wheelchairs to non-ambulatory Senior Citizens usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. Call 1-800-749-8778 or visit [www.durablemedical.com](http://www.durablemedical.com) for more information.

### August 17

The Hotel/Motes Association of Greater Dallas (HMAGD) will honor 40 student Community Partnership (SCP) graduates from 6-8 p.m. at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel in the Peacock Terrace Room, 2201 Stemmons Freeway. For more information call Michelle Brown at 214-827-0955 ext. 223.

Hutson Tillotson College is holding a reception introducing the fifth president of the college, Dr. Larry L. Earvin from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Davage-Durden Student Union, 900 Chicon Street, Austin. For more information call Mary Ashford at 512-505-3074 or e-mail [mkashford@htc.edu](mailto:mkashford@htc.edu).

State Senator Royce West will present a workshop involving HUB and Senate Bill 178 at the UNT System Center at Dallas, 8915 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, from 6-7:30 p.m. For more information fax 214-637-2241.

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) of NCTCOG will be holding two public meetings and an open house at their offices in the Transportation Board Room, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington at

1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. For more information call Cathy Huffman-Morris at 817-695-9284.

### August 18

Leaders of the IRS's operating division will host an all-day seminar, "IRS Restructuring: Town Hall Meeting" in the Bluebonnet Ballroom, E.H. Hereford University Center, 300 W. First Street, Arlington. For more information or to attend call Tom Hall at 817-272-3388.

### August 19

Child Advocates of Tarrant County will host a volunteer orientation to learn more about becoming a court appointed Child Advocate at 10:00 a.m. in their offices, 1020 Macon Street, Ft. Worth. For more information call 817-877-KIDS.

West Dallas Neighborhood Development Corp. is holding a homebuyers' forum at their offices, 2907 N. Hampton Road, Dallas, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. For more information and registration call 214-688-1596.

A College of Bishops to consecrate Bishop-elect James Brown of Ft. Worth will be held at the T.G. Field Auditorium, 500 E. Whaley Street, Longview, at 6:00 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner. For more information call 817-534-6739 or 903-757-6298.

The North Texas Inter-Alumni Council of UNCF is hosting An Elegant Evening To Roast Willis Johnson at Paul Quinn College in the Student Center, 3837 Simpson Stuart Road, Dallas at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 972-234-1007 or 972-263-4114.

Man-Made Mentoring program is hosting a free Open House/Golf Clinic. Registration is at the Ft. Worth Transportation Authority, 1600 E. Lancaster and begins at 9:00 a.m. Any male who wants to become a mentor is also encouraged to attend. For more information call 817-526-0567.

### August 22

A management skills in companies seminar presented by Nancy Mercurio at

the UTA/Ft. Worth Riverbend Campus, Jack Newell Family Auditorium, 7300 Jack Newell Blvd., South, Ft. Worth from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information call Anne Robillard at 817-272-5956.

The NAACP-Garland Branch's monthly meeting will be held at the Garland Women's Activity Bldg., 713 Austin Street. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of each month. For more information call 972-381-5044.

### August 23

The U.S. Dept. of Commerce MBDA is holding an 11-state Regional MED Week forum at the Austin Marriott (Capitol), 710 E. 11th, Austin, August 23-25. For more information call Carmen Chairez at 214-767-8005 or visit [www.mbda.gov/Dallas/dro\\_news.html](http://www.mbda.gov/Dallas/dro_news.html).

Lane Gorman Trubitt, L.L.P. & Altrusa International, Inc. present the Texas Trailblazer Award Luncheon at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel, Chantilly Ballroom at 12:00 p.m. For more information or tickets call Valorie Burton or Michelle Martinez at 214-522-5544.

The 14th Business Opportunity Symposium Series (BOSS) will be held August 23-26 at the Austin Convention Center. For more information call Barbara Burton at 512-322-0177.

### August 24

UT Arlington is holding an interdisciplinary studies advising and orientation session at noon in Room 104 of University Hall, 601 S. Nedderman Dr., Arlington. For more information call Celia Stigall at 817-272-2338.

The Dallas Chapter of the Older Women's League (OWL) is holding a free healthy aging seminar from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak at Liberty, Dallas. For more information call Ann Moy at 214-823-5700.

### August 26

The Dallas Metroplex Council of Black Alumni Associations is holding its 6th Annual Jimmy Walker Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament at the

Mesquite Golf Course, Northwest Highway @I-30, Mesquite. For more information call 972-412-5169 or e-mail [dmcbaa@netzero.net](mailto:dmcbaa@netzero.net).

The Johnson Space Center, Houston, will open its doors to the public for its annual Open House Event, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 281-244-5312 or visit <http://openhouse.jsc.nasa.gov/>.

The Dallas Urban League will hold a black tie gala at the Great Hall International Apparel Mart, 2300 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas beginning at 6:00 p.m. For more information or tickets call 214-915-4600.

### August 29

The North Texas Minority Enterprise Development Committee, the Plano Chamber of Commerce and TXU are hosting the 9th Annual MEDWeek Celebration at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The celebration honors minority and women business owners. For more information call 972-612-3450.

### August 31

The Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce is holding its 2nd Annual Conference at the Omni Downtown, 700 San Jacinto, Austin, August 31-September 2. For more information call 512-457-0370.

### September 2

The Renaissance Cultural Center will host the 5th Annual Cowboys of Color Invitational Rodeo at the Will Rogers Coliseum, 3301 W. Lancaster Ave., Ft. Worth at noon and 8:00 p.m. For more information call Gloria Reed Austin at 817-922-9999.

An Adventure & Victory City-Wide Fundraising Exposition 2000 will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, 3300 W. Mockingbird/Love Field, Main Lobby and Grand Ballrooms from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The exposition is for anyone with a business or concept to present to the public. For more information call 214-358-0304.

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## Farrakhan calls for one million families to participate in historic march

By Lakeesha Joe

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan addressed a crowd of more than 200 at Carver Heights Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas, asking for one million families to converge on Washington, D.C. on October 16, 2000, for the Million Family March. Farrakhan's visit here was part of a multi-city tour promoting the march and its national agenda.

The Million Family March is designed to inspire the same black pride and commitment to rebuilding the family, as did the Million Man March five years ago.

"We have to reconstruct black family life, that's why I'm calling for a Million Family March," said Farrakhan. "With the Million Family March, God is calling us again. However, this time the call is not just limited to men. It is a call from God...for men, women and children...a call for the entire family.

The march was officially launched earlier this year when Minister Benjamin F. Muhammad announced the 200-page national, which discusses morality and public policy, political empowerment, justice, the strengthening of family, quality of life, economic transformation and international affairs.

According to its organizers, the Million Family March will mobilize and organize numerous public policy issues impacting the quality of life for all Americans. This march will be

broader in scope and is intended to inspire and motivate people to work together for freedom, justice and equality.

Throughout his multi-city tour, these town hall meetings have increased awareness of issues affecting the quality of family life. These issues include racial profiling, police brutality, health-care, education, employment, drugs, HIV/AIDS, immigration, law and justice and Social Security.



Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan is calling for one million families to participate in an historic march in Washington, D.C.

Photo by Frank Lott

"The drug culture of America, the AIDS and crack epidemic, violence and the gang activity in the Black, Hispanic, Asian and white communities, in addition to the collapse of democratic principles, have placed America in deep trouble," says Farrakhan. During the Million Family March, Farrakhan hopes that

one million people will renew their marriage vows and will marry 10,000 new couples.

"Where there is no strong marriage and no strong family, there is no strong community and no strong nation. If we want a New World order, it has to begin with marriage and family," said Farrakhan.

The Million Family March, which will be held three weeks before the election offers an unprecedented opportunity to help transform America's social, political, economic and spiritual landscape.

### DART News

## DART EXPANSION

### Trinity Railway Express journeys west

On September 18, Trinity Railway Express commuter rail service extends to Richland Hills. New stations are Richland Hills Station at Handley/Ederville Road and SH 121, Hurst-Bell Station, located near Highway 10 and Bell Spur east of the Bell Helicopter plant, and CentrePort/DFW Station, where riders can catch a free shuttle to DFW International Airport. Call 214 979-1111 for route and schedule information.

### Happy trails to SMU

Saddle up and ride DART's **FREE Mustang Express 768** serving Old Town Village and apartments on Amesbury, as well as Mockingbird Station and SMU. The Mustang Express is free and runs weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., OR take the **NEW Route 527** weekdays from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., which connects Medallion Shopping Center, Lovers Lane Station and the SMU campus.

## DART FOR FUN

### Ride DART to Cowboy home games

True to the Blue, Dallas Cowboy fans are riding **DART's Cowboy Flyer** to all home games. Don't get stuck in football traffic or pay for stadium parking when you can park free and ride from North Irving, North Carrollton, North Central, North Plano, South Garland, Red Bird, Webb Chapel, or Richardson Transit Centers, Mockingbird Station or Big Town Mall. Round trip to Texas Stadium on the DART Flyer is \$5 for adults, \$4 for children under 12, and includes free admission to the Corral Club.

### New Addison Trolley-Bus routes

Two new Trolley-Bus routes provide Monday-through-Saturday shuttle service between Addison hotels, restaurants and shopping malls. **The Addison Shopping Trolley-Bus 709** connects north Addison restaurants and hotels on Belt Line, Beltway and Midway to The Galleria and Volley View Mall, running hourly from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. **The Addison Sunset Trolley-Bus Route 710** shuttles between the restaurants and hotels every 30 minutes from 6 p.m. until midnight. Fare is only 50 cents; free with transfer from DART train or bus.

## JOIN DART

### Ride DART and clear the air

DART joins the North Texas Clean Air Coalition and TXU to increase air pollution awareness. In summer, harmful pollutants can saturate the air we breathe. Do your share to clear the air. Delay mowing lawns and filling gas tanks until the evening hours and refrain from those activities entirely on air pollution watch days. To further reduce harmful ozone emissions, ride DART.

### The DART Team

DART is currently seeking full-time Bus Operators/Train Operators. The minimum salary is \$10.04 per hour and \$11.59 after completion of training. For resume to 214-749-3636 or visit our Human Resources office on Tuesday or Thursday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 1401 Pacific in downtown Dallas. Find additional DART job listings on line at Dart. Org.

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## Learning the basics of financial planning can put you on track to a secure future

**W**hat is financial planning? A client may ask this simple question during a meeting. Upon reflection, it seems that those of us who deliver financial services as our chosen profession sometimes forget to relate our activities in the simplest way to our clients. Buzzwords and euphemisms often become poor substitutes for a clear description of the services and expertise we provide.

Financial planning is a rational process for managing the stream of income and expenditures that define the quality of our financial lives. This plan must cover several decades, since we earn and spend during an entire lifetime. If we think about the planning process mechanically, we can logically begin by defining our expenditure goals. That's not an easy task, since we know that inflation has historically damaged the purchasing power of our savings and investments. One way to define our spending goals is to think of the money we would need in today's dollars, as if we were going to spend the money tomorrow or next week. In that way, we could define today's cost of school tuition for each of the kids, the cost of a new house or summer cottage, a boat or new car, and ultimately, the annual retirement income that would provide the lifestyle that we have become accustomed to living.

### Checking Your Financial "Gas Gauge"

With the financial road map of where we want to go, the next step in financial planning is to check the gas gauge to see how much fuel we have to work with before starting on this trip to our financial future. Our financial gas

gauge is an inventory of our current investments, savings, and other assets. The cash value of insurance policies is often overlooked as an asset.

### Determining Risk

The most difficult task in the financial planning process is deciding how much risk we can tolerate to achieve our investment goals. Risk comes in various packages. Some investors define risk as the potential loss of their investment principal, while others are concerned about the variability in the market value of their investment account. In other words, our perception of risk is as unique as our investment goals.

Confusion of risk stems from an incomplete understanding of all the things that could possibly go wrong with a particular investment plan and the frequency of those mishaps. A good plan will define the risk that is most important in the investor's mind, as well as the risks that are most important to the success of the investment plan. Sensitivity to the investor's perception of risk and control of the critical risks are of equal importance.

### Selecting Appropriate Investment Vehicles

Now that we have defined our investment goals, our current inventory of assets, and the degree of risk we are willing to accommodate, the second-to-last step in the investment planning process is selecting the investment vehicles that will be used in our program. For some investors, this presents a problem, because a person with a short time period between now and when he or she needs to withdraw funds from their investment program generally has the lowest tolerance for risk.

Younger people with many years to

invest before retirement can accommodate higher market volatility in pursuit of higher returns, but could also meet their goals with lower, more consistent-performing types of investments. A good investment plan will explain these trade-offs and a good financial service provider can provide invaluable counsel and interpretation.

### Periodically Reviewing Performance

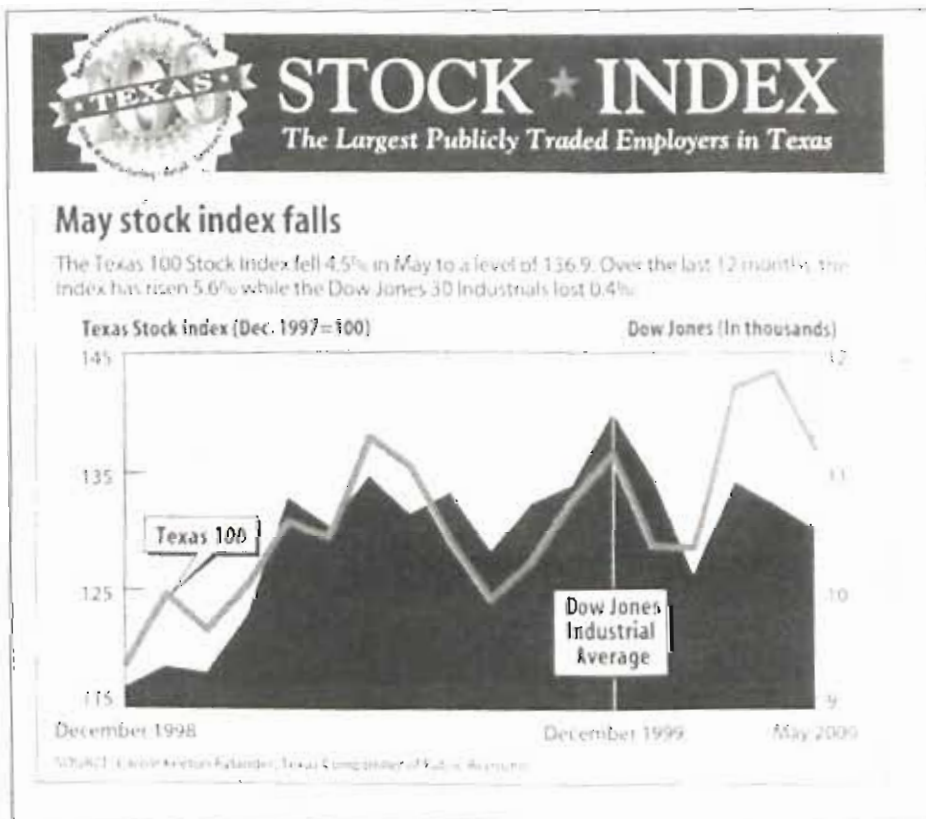
The final step in an investment plan is the periodic and ongoing measurement of the plan's progress toward investment goals and confirmation that the portfolio strategy is remaining within the established risk parameters. A good rule of thumb is to review performance

and risk exposure on a quarterly basis and to review and update investment goals, asset inventories and risk tolerance annually.

Contact your Financial Advisor to help you prepare an individualized investment plan.

*Provided courtesy of John Dudley, a Financial Advisor with the investment firm First Union Securities in Dallas, TX. For more information, please call John Dudley at 214-740-3253. First Union Securities, Inc., Member New York Stock Exchange and SIPC. © 1999 First Union Securities.*

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# UNT System Center receives corporate donations

Just one month shy of the one-year anniversary of the official groundbreaking for the University of North Texas System Center at Dallas, the Center celebrates another milestone. LBI, Inc., a minority-owned firm donated \$50,000 to the Center and presented the check to Dr. Alfred Hurley, UNT Chancellor and President, State

would mean for the city of Dallas, the Best Southwest suburban communities and even my immediate family," said LBI President and CEO Gus Warren. "The Senator (West)

be celebrated by a gala in support of the Center themed "Where Eagles Dare." A \$5,000 portion of LBI's contribution will go towards the gala.

The gift by LBI, Inc. along with other corporate gifts, the Olympic 2012 Committee partnership and the final completion of the Center to 78,000 square feet further illustrates the commitment of the entire community to see this project through," says Senator West.



Gus Warren, president and CEO of LBI, Inc. signs a check for the UNT System Center at Dallas

Senator Royce West and Dr. Virginia Wheeless, interim executive director.

"As a corporate partner and resident in southern Dallas County, I witnessed the development of the Center. I was in awe of the magnitude of what it

and UNT had stepped up to the task of providing public higher education in the area and I just couldn't sit there and not get involved."

LBI's donation comes one month short of the groundbreaking anniversary that will

## Students receive TXU/TPA scholarships



TXU Electric & Gas and Texas Publishers' Association announced the six recipients of the "Bright Minds, Bright Future" Scholarships. Each student received \$2,500 towards their college education and was acknowledged during the Gospel Celebration at Six Flags Over Texas presented by TXU Electric.

## DISD Parent Hotline

In order to ease the confusion of the first days of classes, the DISD has set up a Parent Hotline to answer school-related concerns and questions from the community.

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found by calling (972) 925-KIDS (5437). The hotline will be in operation from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. August 14-15-the first two days of school; and 7:30 a.m. until noon, August 16-18. Bilingual Parent Hotline staff will answer questions in Spanish.

# Enroll

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Fall courses begin Aug. 28. For information, call (877) UNT-DALS, visit [www.unt.edu/unt-dallas](http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas) or attend the fall registration session.

**Current programs**

<b>Undergraduate programs</b> Computer science Criminal justice General business Interdisciplinary studies (elementary education) Legal information management Occupational training and development	<b>Rehabilitation studies (minor in chemical dependency and addiction studies)</b> <b>Graduate programs</b> Information science Library science	<b>Certificates and endorsements</b> Alternative dispute resolution certificate Diversity certificate Information processing technology teaching endorsement Music teacher certification Technology applications certificate
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**New programs beginning Fall 2000**

<b>Undergraduate programs</b> Development and family studies Health information management	<b>Graduate programs</b> Counseling and student services	<b>Certificates and endorsements</b> E-commerce certificate Educational diagnostician certification
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**Fall registration session**  
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## Arlington resident leads Texas Railroad Commission

By Janelle Gray

There are many prosperous black politicians that are sometimes overlooked, however they are making strides to help our city, state, and country everyday. Railroad Commissioner Michael L. Williams is one of those men.



Michael L. Williams

Commissioner Williams was appointed by Governor Bush in November of 1998 to complete the term of Carole Keeton Rylander through the year of 2000. In September 1999, Williams was elected by his fellow commissioners to chair the Commission. He currently serves as an associate member on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission and represents the Texas Railroad Commission on the Coastal Coordination Council. He was also appointed "point person" for the agency's regulatory reform and

technology modernization efforts. Commissioner Williams is the first African-American in Texas history to serve in a nonjudicial statewide office. In 1990, he was appointed by President George Bush to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education.

Previously, Williams served as Special Assistant to Attorney General Richard Thornburgh. He was also an assistant district attorney in Midland, Texas and a former federal prosecutor from 1984-1988. It was here that he prosecuted police brutality and racial hate crimes. In 1988, Williams was awarded the Attorney General's "Special Achievement Award" for the conviction of six Ku Klux Klan members on federal weapons charges.

Before taking his position on the Commission, Williams served as gener-

al counsel to a Texas-based high-tech corporation. He also served in a volunteer capacity as the general counsel of the Republican Party of Texas, the chairman of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and on the Board of Directors of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Public Policy Foundation and Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School.

Commissioner Williams is a member of the Republicans party. He believes African-Americans should consider the Republican Party and believes African-Americans have similar values to the Party.

Williams graduated from the University of Southern California where he received his bachelor's degree in political science, master's degree in public administration, and a law degree.

Commissioner Williams lives with his wife of 15 years, Donna in Arlington. "I'm not sure what's in the future," Williams said. "It's an exciting industry. Nothing happens without energy. The people here are wonderful."

Established in 1891, the Railroad Commission of Texas has four regulatory divisions that oversee the state's oil and gas industry. There are 3 Railroad Commissioners elected to serve for 6 years. The elections are staggered so that only one candidate is up for election every 2 years. In some cases the governor may appoint a commissioner to fill an unexpired term. At this time, the commissioner serves until the next General Election at which time the appointee may run for the remainder of the unexpired term.

...continued from page 9

dition. There were "psychedelic" studio effects, such as gurgling and echoing, which gave the music an eerie dimension. This album launched about a thousand new groups, with Hendrix's "wah-wah" guitar as their standard. Alone, Hendrix created an entirely new vocabulary for rock musicians. His controlled use of extraneous noises from the amplifiers, along with harmonics, distortion, and other sounds, gave an exciting, new approach to blues. "Voodoo Chile" made in the best jazz "jam session" tradition, inspired other rock musicians to prolong their solos and improvise at length.

Behind Hendrix's intimidating pop-star image lay a revolutionary and eclectic blues guitarist. Hendrix's guitar mastery combined classic blues elements with freaky, sounds that paved the road for the next generation. Hendrix's unorthodox guitar work, which represented outrage and rebellion to many, made a major contribution to the evolution of the guitar. For Hendrix, his music was an extension of his soul. It wasn't a guitar, notes or

music. He was projecting the essence of Jimi Hendrix.

On September 18, 1970, Hendrix died suddenly. He accomplished as much as Charlie Christian or Charlie Parker did 30 years before, leaving a stunned public. Hendrix once stated: "It's funny the way people love the dead. Once you are dead, you are made for life. You have to die before they think you are worth anything. And I tell you, when I die, I'm going to have a jam session. I shall have them playing everything I did musically...everything I enjoyed doing most. The music will be played loud and it will be our music. I won't have any Beatles' songs, but I'll have a few Eddie Cochran's things and a whole lot of blues. Roland Kirk will be there and I'll try to get Miles Davis along if he feels like making it. For that, it's almost worth dying, just for the funeral."

His obituary in the New York Times stated simply "Hendrix was a gentle, peaceful man whose only real concern was music." Let that be his epitaph.



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