



"The Legend of the Freedom Tree"

**Wells Fargo, Wal-Mart,
Villagers 20/20, &
Michael Rose CPA
contribute \$10,000 to the
MCJCF Scholarship
Fund!**

Wal-Mart, Michael Rose CPA, Villagers 20/20 and the MCJCF joined with Wells Fargo Bank in raising a total of \$10,000 in contributions for the "2008" MCJCF Scholarship Fund.

As result of their collective efforts, four (4) \$2,500 scholarships were awarded to students from the Missouri City community.

Additionally, the MCJCF plans call for ongoing mentorship of these students, which includes assistance in obtaining annual summer internships for each of the scholarship recipients.

Derrick Woods, MCJCF's Executive Director, proclaims that this is just the beginning. "Plans are to increase the annual scholarship fund to \$25,000 and with a matching funds commitment from Houston Community College... this now

becomes a very obtainable goal."

"The goal of the foundation is not only to get young people to college, but also to get them to earn a degree."

The foundation will be in communication with the kids and their families over the course of their four years to make sure that they are holding up their end of our partnership."

**...and speaking of
Scholarship Recipients!**



Nefertari Tierra Edwards

We are pleased to announce the "2008" recipients of the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation's scholarship program for high school seniors.

The MCJCF Advisory Board with great diligence and care have selected these scholarship recipients based on their academic achievement, career goals, extracurricular & community-related activities, and their overall financial need. In the words of MCJCF Founder & Board Chairman, Don Smith...

"The goal of the foundation is not only to get young people to college, but to get them to earn a degree. The Foundation will be in communication with the kids and their families over the course of their four years to make sure that they are holding up their end of our partnership."

As such, the MCJCF is proud to lend assistance to the following individuals: **Mr. Enoch J. Brown III, Ms, Nefertari Tierra Edwards, Mr. Byron Duncan and Ms. Skylar Arielle Hunt.**

"By providing these resources in the amount of \$2,500 scholarships to each of these deserving young adults we invest in our own futures and with the recent election of an African American as President of the United States, it's vitally important that all young adults understand that all things are possible once you've achieved higher education."
-Don Smith, MCJCF Board Chairman



MCJCF Scholarship Advisory Board President, Winston Labbe, Ms. Lela Brown, mother of Enoch Brown III (scholarship awardee), and MCJCF Board Chairman, Don Smith



Byron Duncan & his mother, MCJCF Board Chairman Don Smith and Skylar Hunt & her father



17 & Under Division Champions

MCJCF Juneteenth 3-on-3 "Blacktop Battle"

This year, our annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament took on a new participant as the **Houston Rockets** brought their **"Blacktop Battle"** to Missouri City to join forces with the **Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation** and the action on the blacktop was hot and furious.

Team from the onset demonstrated high energy and the required team spirit reflective of the MCJCF Juneteenth's festive weekend full of events and activities.

Plagued again by rain, only one (1) division winner was determined. However it wasn't all bad though as appearances from Rocket Mascot **"Clutch"** and **Rocket Cheerleaders** helped to cheer on the event participants. Additional perks included cold energy drinks courtesy of **Monster Energy Drinks** with team jerseys, fruits and refreshments provided by **Fiesta Mart.**

Chrislord Templonuevo, promotions coordinator for the Houston Rockets get a valuable assist for all of his hard work on the co-promotion of this event.

MCJCF Parade Updates

A change is coming as the MCJCF Executive Board announced plans to shift it's annual "One Mile of Smiles" Juneteenth Parade to begin at dusk to better accommodate both its parade participants and the attending community in beating the heat.



Pictured: Don Smith, WHS band members, Cheryl Lynch, & Professor Ronald Thornton, Band Director

MCJCF present \$500.00 to Willowridge High School Band Booster Club

For the past seven (7) years the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation has supported local high school bands in Missouri City. One of which is the Willowridge High School Band.

Don Smith, MCJCF Founder presents a \$500 check to the Willowridge High School band members and Band Director, Dr. Ron Thornton to assist the band with operational expenses after another stellar performance during the MCJCF's annual Juneteenth Parade.

The MCJCF mission is to support

