



**THE
TEXAS BUSINESS
HALL OF FAME**

32nd Annual Induction Dinner

*Wednesday
November 5, 2014
Hilton Anatole Hotel
Dallas, Texas*



Celebrating the Partnership of *Texas Business Legends* *& Texas Education*

WELCOME

Jordan W. Cowman
Chairman, Texas Business Hall of Fame

Lee Cullum
Master of Ceremonies

RECOGNITION OF TEXAS BUSINESS HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

RECOGNITION OF 2014 INDUCTEES

INVOCATION

Reverend Bryan H. Dunagan

DINNER

RECOGNITION OF 2014 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

CLOSING REMARKS

Jordan W. Cowman

Todd Barth
Chairman, 2015, Texas Business Hall of Fame

2014 Inductees to the Texas Business Hall of Fame



Donald L. Evans

MIDLAND

Gerald J. Ford

DALLAS

Douglas D. Hawthorne

DALLAS

Trevor Rees-Jones

DALLAS

Harold C. Simmons

DALLAS

Kelcy Warren

DALLAS



Donald L. Evans



Don Evans was the 34th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the voice of business in government. Evans was a core member of President George W. Bush's economic team, advising President Bush on many issues including pro-growth and job-creating economic policies, international trade, business concerns, and energy policy.

Evans oversaw a diverse cabinet agency with some 40,000 workers and a \$5.8 billion budget focused on promoting American business, both at home and abroad. The Commerce Department gathers vast quantities of economic and demographic data, issues patents and trademarks, helps set technical standards, forecasts the weather, conducts oceans and coastal zone research, manages marine fisheries and sanctuaries, enforces international trade laws, and develops telecommunications and technology policy.

Born in Houston, Texas in 1946, Evans attended the University of Texas at Austin, receiving a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering in 1969 and an M.B.A. in 1973. During school breaks, he worked in a Texas steel mill. In 1975, Evans moved to Midland, Texas from Houston and began his career as a "roughneck" working on oil rigs for Tom Brown, Inc., a large independent energy company. Ten years later, he took the helm of the company as CEO, continuing in that position until being tapped by President Bush to lead the Commerce Department.

After leaving Commerce, Evans served as CEO of the Financial Services Forum, an economic policy association. Evans resigned his post as CEO of Financial Services Forum at the end of 2007 in order to take on his current role as Chairman of the private utility company, Energy Future Holdings, formerly known as TXU Corporation. Evans also serves as Chairman of the George W. Bush Foundation for the George W. Bush Presidential Center located at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. In addition, Evans is a senior partner with Quintana Energy Partners out of Houston and a senior advisor for Energy Capital Partners in New Jersey.

Evans is a self-described optimist who believes the highest calling in life is serving others. As a result, he has been very active in community service over the years. In 1995, Governor Bush appointed him to the Board of Regents of the University of Texas; he was elected chairman of the board in February 1997 and served two consecutive terms. Evans was a board member of the

Scleroderma Research Foundation for eight years and was a driving force behind Native Vision, a program that provides services to about 10,000 Native American children. He was involved with the United Way for many years, serving as president of the Midland branch in 1989 and campaign chair in 1981. He is also an active member of the MD Anderson Board of Visitors as well as their Executive Committee.

In 1997, Evans received the UT Cockrell School of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. In December 2001, the University of South Carolina awarded Evans an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. In September 2002, the University of Texas honored Evans with its Distinguished Alumnus Award. In November 2002, he was inducted into the University of Texas Red McCombs School of Business Hall of Fame. Evans has made significant contributions in local and national politics over the past 25 years, having worked on behalf of Governor Bush's successful gubernatorial campaigns in 1994 and 1998 and serving as chairman of the Bush/Cheney 2000 campaign.

Evans says his passions in life are his family and friends. He is married to Susan Marinis Evans. They have two daughters, a son, and four grandchildren.

Gerald J. Ford



Mr. Gerald Ford is one of the nation's most accomplished financial services executives. He has acquired, managed and sold banking businesses and other financial services companies for over 35 years. In 1975, Mr. Ford purchased a controlling interest in his first bank, First National Bank of Post, Texas with \$25 million in total assets.

Over the next 18 years, Mr. Ford acquired more than 30 commercial banks through Ford Bank Group, Inc., in West Texas, and United New Mexico Financial Corp. based in Albuquerque, ultimately forming First United Bank Group, Inc. as a public multi-bank holding company with approximately \$4.0 billion in total assets. In 1994, Norwest Corporation (now Wells Fargo & Co.) acquired First United Bank Group.

In 1988, Mr. Ford partnered with MacAndrews & Forbes Holdings Inc. to form First Gibraltar Bank, FSB. First Gibraltar acquired all the assets and certain liabilities of five insolvent Texas thrifts from the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. During the early 1990's, First Gibraltar acquired three additional thrifts and a mortgage banking operation from the Resolution Trust Corporation. While Mr. Ford served as the Chairman and CEO, First Gibraltar became the largest thrift and fourth largest financial institution in Texas and Oklahoma. During 1992 and 1993, First Gibraltar performed an orderly sale of assets, deposits, branches, and its mortgage company to various acquirers, including Bank of America and Chase Manhattan Bank. Following these sales, First Gibraltar retained approximately \$1 billion in assets and subsequently acquired First Nationwide Bank in 1994.

From 1994 to 1998, Mr. Ford, as Chairman and CEO, led the expansion of the First Nationwide Bank platform by acquiring various federal savings banks in California, as well as additional branches, mortgage servicing portfolios, and auto finance companies. In 1998, Golden State Bancorp was created in connection with the Glendale Federal Bank acquisition. Mr. Ford was Chairman of the Board and CEO of Golden State Bancorp from 1998 until it was sold to Citigroup in November 2002. At the time of the Citigroup transaction, Golden State Bancorp was the third largest thrift in the United States with over 350 branches in California and Nevada.

Mr. Ford currently serves as Chairman of Hilltop Holdings Inc. On November 30, 2012, Hilltop Holdings Inc. acquired PlainsCapital Corporation, including its wholly-owned banking subsidiary, PlainsCapital Bank, for cash and stock. In September 2013, PlainsCapital Bank assumed certain liabilities and purchased certain assets of Edinburg-based First National Bank from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He was the Managing Member of, and the principal investor in, Ford Financial Fund, L.P., a private equity firm that owned a controlling interest in Pacific Capital Bancorp, for which he also served as Chairman until sale. On December 1, 2012, Pacific Capital Bancorp was sold in an all cash transaction to UnionBanCal Corporation, a member of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group. Mr. Ford is the principal shareholder of First Acceptance Corporation, a non-standard auto insurance company, and a Managing Member of, and the principal investor in, Ford Financial Fund II, L.P., a private equity fund. He currently is the Lead Independent Director of Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc. He also is a director of Scientific Games Corp. and SWS Group, Inc. He previously served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southern Methodist University ("S.M.U.") and currently serves as a trustee. As well, he is on the Executive Board of S.M.U. School of Law, as a trustee of Southwestern Medical Foundation and Children's Medical Foundation, and is a member of the Board of Overseers of Weill Medical College and Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University. Mr. Ford holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from S.M.U.

Douglas D. Hawthorne



Douglas D. Hawthorne, FACHE, became Founding Chief Executive Officer Emeritus of Texas Health Resources on Sept. 1, 2014, upon stepping down as Chief Executive Officer. Texas Health, based in Arlington, is one of the nation's largest faith-based, nonprofit health systems. The system includes Texas Health Physicians Group and hospitals under the banners of Texas Health Presbyterian, Texas Health Arlington Memorial, Texas Health Harris Methodist and Texas Health Huguley.

Mr. Hawthorne was born in Orange, N.J., in 1947, and grew up in San Antonio, Texas. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree and his Master's degree in Health Care Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio. He served Presbyterian Healthcare Resources in many roles after joining the system in 1970, rising to President and CEO of Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas (now Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas) and of Presbyterian Healthcare Resources. In 1997, he became President and CEO of the newly formed Texas Health Resources.

Guided by the mission of improving the health of the people in the communities served by Texas Health, Mr. Hawthorne successfully implemented a unique vision while conquering several challenges. Perhaps the largest was overseeing the joining of several highly successful health-care brands — Presbyterian Healthcare Resources, Harris Methodist Hospitals and Arlington Memorial Hospital — in creating Texas Health Resources. Texas Health has reaped the benefits of his strategy and vision and has enjoyed a successful integration of the organizations into one health system that serves one in four North Texans.

Under Mr. Hawthorne's leadership, Texas Health and its member organizations received numerous awards. Several Texas Health hospitals have been recognized nationally for clinical excellence. The Greater Dallas Community Relations Commission and Dallas Together Forum have honored Texas Health for its commitment to diversity. The American Hospital Association has twice presented Texas Health with its coveted NOVA Award for outstanding community service.

In addition to helping lead the formation of Texas Health, Mr. Hawthorne's other notable career achievements include nine mentions in Modern Healthcare magazine's list of the "100 Most Influential People in Health Care" and being named among the "HealthLeaders 20" in 2013 for making a difference in health care. He received the Cancer Support Community of North Texas' inaugural Community in Action Award, Modern Healthcare CEO IT award, Diversity Ambassador of the Year Award from the American Red Cross Chisholm Trail Chapter, Texas Hospital Association Trustee Award, American College of Healthcare Executives Gold Medal Award, Earl M. Collier Award for Distinguished Hospital Administration from the Texas Hospital Association, and Boone Powell Sr. Award of Excellence for distinguished hospital administration from the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council.

Mr. Hawthorne currently serves as the chair of the Health Leadership Council Executive Task Force on the Uninsured, as well as a member of the American Hospital Association's President's Forum. He is a past chairman of the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council, the Texas Hospital Association and of Premier, an alliance of nonprofit hospitals and healthcare systems. He also served as chairman of North Texas LEAD (Leaders and Executives Advocating Diversity) Initiative and currently serves on the board of LHP Hospital Group, Inc. He was formerly on the board and executive committee of the American Hospital Association. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Mr. Hawthorne is a leader and contributor. He received the Fort Worth Business Press Healthcare Heroes Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014, and was previously named a Regional Superhero by the North Texas Commission. He received the Greer Garson-E.E. Fogelson Humanitarian Award for helping people and furthering awareness of Parkinson's disease. He served as chairman of the Dallas County Community College District Foundation, and is currently chair of the DCCCD Foundation's Campaign for Excellence Health Professions Initiative Committee. He recently was named Chair of the Trinity University Board of Trustees.

Known as a philanthropist and volunteer, Mr. Hawthorne and his wife Martha helped establish and fund a health clinic in Tanzania. Working with a team of health professionals and family members, the Hawthornes helped prepare the Open Arms clinic for its opening in June 2011. Over three days the team treated 358 patients. The clinic is thriving after three years of operation, with a physician and nurse treating patients daily. The Hawthornes, who have made multiple mission trips, were honored by Empower African Children for their labor of love in establishing the much-needed clinic.

He is past president of the Circle Ten Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and received the Silver Beaver award from the Circle Ten Council for distinguished service. A recipient of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, he received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Longhorn Council. Mr. Hawthorne is a member of the Salesmanship Club of Dallas and is Reserve Elder of the Highland Park Presbyterian Church. The Hawthorne family includes Doug and Martha's five children, their spouses and seven grandchildren.

Trevor Rees-Jones



Trevor Rees-Jones, who was born in Dallas and earned a BA from Dartmouth College and JD from SMU School of Law, is founder, president and CEO of Dallas-based Chief Oil & Gas LLC, and CEO of Rees-Jones Holdings LLC. Mr. Rees-Jones initially followed in his father's footsteps as an attorney. He established a successful bankruptcy practice specializing in oil and gas reorganization but quickly realized he was more intrigued with putting deals together to explore oil and natural gas than writing briefs and researching legal issues.

He left the law firm in 1984 and pursued his interest in oil and gas. For the next 10 years he worked putting deals together, drilling or investing in more than 400 exploratory wells throughout Central and Southwest Texas. The risk was high and reward was sometimes low. At one point he canceled the family's cable TV because of tight finances. Today, the family is no longer concerned about the cable bill.

In 1994 Mr. Rees-Jones founded Chief Oil & Gas. The company's primary focus was developing reserves in the Bend Conglomerate formation underlying portions of North Texas. Chief was an early operator during the development of the Barnett Shale field in North Texas. By 2005, Chief was the second largest producer in the Barnett Shale with over 250 wells drilled, the most active in Tarrant county (which is now recognized as the heart of the Barnett Shale) 200,000 acres leased, and production surpassing 120 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.

After selling the majority of Chief's acreage, production and pipeline system in the Barnett Shale in 2006, Chief Oil & Gas moved its area of focus to Pennsylvania where it became one of the largest leaseholders in the Marcellus Shale with close to 600,000 acres of gross leasehold. Over the next few years Chief sold assets in southwestern Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland. In May of 2012, Chief sold its Marcellus pipeline and midstream assets to Penn Virginia Resource Partners (PVR). Chief retained and continues to operate over 100,000 acres of leases in northeastern Pennsylvania, the most prolific producing area in the Marcellus.

Today, Chief produces approximately one percent of the nation's natural gas production. But while Rees-Jones is proud of the company's financial success he also takes great pride in the contribution it is making toward the country's overall economic health. "We are very proud to contribute to the well-being of our country in this way, creating a sizeable tax base and an abundance of jobs, fostering greater energy independence and national security, and helping each American family realize a savings of about \$2,000 a year in gas and utility costs as a result of the abundance of natural gas being produced," said Rees-Jones.

Chief continues as a leading private independent oil and gas company, with a substantial acreage position in the Marcellus, as well as holdings and activity in many other oil and gas basins in the U.S.

Mr. Rees-Jones is past president of both the Dallas Petroleum Club and the Dallas Hardhatters Committee (now the Dallas Wildcatters Committee), is a past member of the Board of Trustees at Dartmouth College, and is a member of the TCU Board of Trustees. Mr. Rees-Jones received the Folsom Award for civic and community service in 2011. In 2013, he was presented with the Circle Ten Council Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and was inducted into the Junior Achievement's Dallas Business Hall of Fame. In the spring of 2014, Mr. Rees-Jones was inducted into the Entrepreneurs for North Texas "Ring of Entrepreneurs" by Communities Foundation of Texas.

Along with his wife, Jan, Mr. Rees-Jones founded The Rees-Jones Foundation in 2006 with the conviction that they have been blessed by God and as stewards of resources are called to share with those less advantaged with programs, principally in the North Texas area.

Rees-Jones still remembers his days as an Eagle Scout from Troop 70 in University Park. He believes scouting helped provide the friendships and instilled values that helped shape his life. So when Exxon chief executive Rex Tillerson asked the foundation to contribute \$25 million to the local Circle Ten Council, Mr. Rees-Jones and his wife agreed to make the donation. Mr. Tillerson was quoted as saying he almost fell out of the golf cart when Mr. Rees-Jones said yes to his request. The grant has established the Trevor Rees-Jones ScoutReach Endowment that serves at-risk youth who may not otherwise participate in Scouting because of financial inability. It also paid for capital improvements at the council's scout camp outside Athens, now named the Trevor Rees-Jones Scout Camp. In addition, the Foundation supports human services for children, youth and families, youth development, mental health, and community benefit.

Mr. and Mrs. Rees-Jones live in Dallas and have two sons, Trevor R., a TCU graduate, and David, a current student attending TCU.

Harold C. Simmons



Harold C. Simmons, a Dallas entrepreneur and philanthropist, passed away December 28, 2013. He was a remarkable, generous and gifted man who exemplified the American Dream. Born in Golden, Texas, Harold was the son of rural Texas educators who instilled in him strong Christian values, discipline, and a healthy respect for education and hard work.

When he was 16 and just out of high school, his family moved to a small town near Austin into a home with something new to the family: indoor plumbing. He enrolled at the University of Texas where he was a member of the Southwest Conference Championship basketball team of 1951. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics at UT and was awarded a Phi Beta Kappa key.

His first job was as an investigator for the U.S. Civil Service Commission. Then, in 1955 he became an assistant bank examiner at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Within a few years he made the transition from bank examiner to bank executive, but after five years, he determined it may be more challenging, and, hopefully more rewarding, to work for himself.

While a banker, he learned that drug stores offered the kind of financial opportunity he sought: good cash flow, a high return on investment, and modest capital requirements. So, he bought a small drug store in Dallas near Southern Methodist University. The 29-year old future entrepreneur had made his first leveraged buyout: \$5,000 cash from savings, plus a note for \$95,000, and the drugstore—and opportunity—were his. After that, Harold would always be his own boss.

While managing the store, Mr. Simmons performed every task imaginable, including flipping burgers on the grill, mopping the floors, and delivering prescriptions in his Volkswagen Beetle. He said those were the years he worked the hardest. Even during those busy times, he studied financial reports and became a silent observer of some of the country's top financial minds.

In 1966, he made his first major acquisition, buying Williams Drug Co., a seven-store chain in Waco, Texas, with a \$650,000 note. This time it was a 100% leveraged deal. He moved to Waco where he quickly developed new skills running a chain of stores. One year later he bought control of a publicly traded Houston company with 30 drug stores. Next he bought an eleven-store chain in East Texas. By this time he was living in Houston and flying his own plane while looking after his growing chain of stores.

His next big move came in 1969 when he structured an \$18 million buyout of Ward's Drugstores in Dallas. Mr. Simmons recalled those days as stimulating and exciting times. He owned a chain of 100 highly profitable stores—so profitable in fact, that Jack Eckerd made him an offer he couldn't refuse. In 1973, Mr. Simmons sold his stores for \$50 million in Eckerd stock.

He then began a career of buying major positions in publicly traded companies. After sometimes gaining control, he managed the companies to maximize the value of the investment for himself and other shareholders. He subsequently controlled at various times major companies in several different industries: chemicals, wire and steel, titanium metals, sugar refining, timber products, fast food, hardware manufacturing, petroleum services, and waste control management.

Harold Simmons was a man of few words, but giant actions. He once said, "Life has been good to me, and I want to be good to life." This philosophy led to the establishment of The Harold Simmons Foundation in 1988. He and his wife, Annette, along with his foundation, have generously supported programs with interest in health, education, youth, human rights, civic improvement and the arts. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons have been the recipients of numerous awards for service and philanthropy. This unwavering support and unprecedented generosity have fueled the engine that has allowed Dallas to rise in national prominence in the areas of education, health care and medical research.

As author John Nance wrote, "Good people do finish first, and the American Dream can be won by decent men who care about others, regard their word as their bond and honesty as their responsibility, and who regard the wealth they may achieve as a God-given responsibility, not a jackpot." Harold was a proud Texan and a patriot whose eyes would fill upon hearing The National Anthem. And, although he traveled a long way from his East Texas childhood days to become a successful businessman, a champion tennis player, a jet pilot and later in life a passionate golfer, he always considered himself simply as "the boy from Golden."

Kelcy Warren



Texas businessman Kelcy Warren has been in the oil and gas business for more than 30 years. Born and raised in East Texas, Warren oversees the Energy Transfer family of partnerships, one of the largest and most diversified portfolio of publicly-traded energy partnerships in the country with an enterprise valued at more than \$94 billion.

Warren serves as chairman of Energy Transfer Equity and chairman and CEO of Energy Transfer Partners. He is also CEO of Lone Star NGL, and oversees the general partner of Regency Energy Partners. Additionally, Southern Union and Sunoco, two of the great icons of the energy industry, are part of the Energy Transfer family of partnerships.

Warren has a proven track record when it comes to acquiring and developing energy companies into exceptional performing entities starting when he co-founded Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners in 1996, by being as he puts it “in the right place at the right time” to take advantage of the opportunity to acquire highly desirable pipeline assets as a result of the collapse of Enron. His perseverance and determination have helped him survive the industry’s many ups and downs, but recognizing opportunities and opening himself up to take risks is something he has always done.

Today, Energy Transfer Partners and the family of partnerships are involved in the gathering, treating, processing and transporting of natural gas, natural gas liquids, refined products and crude oil through approximately 71,000 miles of pipelines; more than 4 million operating horsepower; in excess of 90 million barrels of NGL, crude oil and petrochemical storage; 62 processing and treating facilities, three fractionators, two import/export facilities, and approximately 6,300 retail locations. Energy Transfer employs more than 26,000 employees in 22 states.

In truth, Warren’s experience in the pipeline business started long before 1996. At age 13, he worked alongside his dad, a supply clerk for Sun Oil (which is now owned by Energy Transfer Partners) sweeping warehouses, and as a welder’s helper before earning a degree in civil engineering at the University of Texas - Arlington after which he went to work as a pipeline design engineer for Lone Star Gas.

Warren, a dedicated family man was raised to believe that those who worked hard and respected others would find success, and he is committed to instilling those same beliefs in his son with whom he enjoys hiking, fishing and exploring new places.

Warren has been recognized by numerous energy and business organizations for his accomplishments and contributions to the industry. He was recently honored with the GPA Hanlon Award presented by the Gas Processors Association, one of the industry’s highest honors. This award is presented to individuals with outstanding career achievements and contributions toward the advancement of the midstream industry.

Warren is also active in organizations outside the energy business serving on the board of directors for The Klyde Warren Park, and The Lamplighter School, both in Dallas, and The University of Texas – Arlington board of directors. He also supports The Boy Scouts of America and a number of children’s charities around the country through Cherokee Crossroads, Inc.

2014 Scholarship Recipients

E. JACKSON GILES, III

Acton School of Business

MATT CLARK

Baylor University

NEIL CLEMENTS, JR.

Dallas Baptist University

The Mitchell Family Foundation Scholarship

NEIL RAMJI GADHIA

Houston Baptist University

EMERALD STAR LEWIS

Houston Baptist University

The Stewart Morris Scholarship

JASON LEE BURKETT

Lamar University

The Ben Rogers Scholarship

BLAKE E. PARRISH

Rice University

RACHEL STANBERY

Rice University

The Douglas L. Foshee Scholarship

SIOBHAN KILLALEA

Sam Houston State University

JENNIFER ANNE WATKINS

Sam Houston State University

The SWBC Foundation Scholarship

WILLIAM LEIGHTON LAFUZE, JR.

Southern Methodist University

The Robert H. Dedman Scholarship

KAREN RIBAR

Southern Methodist University

CHRIS COSTLEY

St. Mary's University

The Harvey E. Najim Scholarship

BENJAMIN HINOJOSA

St. Mary's University

The Carlos and Malu Alvarez Scholarship

KIMBERLY ANN KENNEDY

St. Mary's University

ANGELA RIZZO

St. Mary's University

The William E. "Bill" Greehey Scholarship

2014 Scholarship Recipients

ALYSSA R. GUTIERREZ

St. Philip's College

The Whataburger Scholarship

LLOYD MCGUIRE

Texas A&M University

GLENN ALLEN DECKER

Texas Christian University

JA'TEZ KELLY GARDNER

Texas Southern University

CRAIG MEURER

Texas State University

JACOB H. FEDOSKY

Texas Tech University

The Silver & Black Give Back Scholarship

JOSEPH KMETZ

Texas Tech University

SOPHIE HEALY ROTH

University of Dallas

NOOR DAOUDI

University of Houston

JENESE SHAW

University of the Incarnate Word

The H-E-B Scholarship

RUSTY V. KARST

University of North Texas

NICOLE VELASQUEZ

University of Texas

ALEJANDRO JACOBO

University of Texas - Dallas

KENNY OZUNA

University of Texas - Pan American

TONY TAO YUAN

University of Texas - San Antonio



E. JACKSON GILES, III

Acton School of Business

Jackson Giles, a native Austinite, launched his first nonprofit while attending the University of Colorado. Pursuing a career in nonprofit development, he worked for Teach For America in Houston and later on the national development team. Jackson received his MBA in entrepreneurship from Acton, and won the 2014 Acton Scholar Award. He now aims to drive community impact through business. An avid musician, Jackson continues to live in Austin with his wife and family.



MATT CLARK

Baylor University

Matt Clark is the co-founder and chief technology officer at Valify, a software-as-a-service company focusing on helping hospitals cut costs through automated accounts payable analytics. Clark was previously vice president of software development at CareView Communications. He received his B.A. in business administration from Baylor University, where he majored in management information systems and accounting. Clark enjoys spending time with his wife and three children.



NEIL CLEMENTS, JR.

Dallas Baptist University

Neil Clements is a five-year accelerated BBA/MBA degree candidate at Dallas Baptist University. While working toward his degree he has also worked with Africa Renewal Ministries, a nonprofit Christian ministry, establishing operations in Uganda and the United States. With a combination of DBA training and first-hand experience launching small businesses, Clements' entrepreneurial future looks bright. His interests include music, technology, finance and spending time with family and friends.



NEIL RAMJI GADHIA

Houston Baptist University

Neil Gadhia, a Houston native, is pursuing his MBA with a concentration in finance at Houston Baptist University. He is a franchisee and has been managing his business full-time since 2013. Using hands-on knowledge and experience, Gadhia plans to expand his business portfolio. He enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and playing competitive sports such as basketball, football, and golf.



EMERALD STAR LEWIS

Houston Baptist University

Emerald Lewis is pursuing her MBA at Houston Baptist University. She earned a B.S. degree in psychology from the University of Houston-Downtown. She is an accountant for Quintana Minerals Corporation and is currently earning her certified public accountant credentials. Recently, Lewis was inducted into the Delta Mu Delta International Business Honor Society. She credits her mom for inspiring her ambition, and her three sons are her constant motivation.



JASON LEE BURKETT

Lamar University

Jason Burkett grew up in Houston and attends Lamar University, where he is earning an accounting degree. He is a five-year BBA/MSA student planning to complete his master's degree in 2015. His ultimate goal is to start an accounting and financial services firm with his younger brother. Burkett has taken internships with UHY and Deloitte and currently tutors for the accounting program at Lamar.



BLAKE E. PARRISH

Rice University

After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Texas A&M University, Blake Parrish traveled through across North America performing NASCAR driver marketing duties. Establishing relationships with media, brands and clients led him to PMG Austin, where he directed the creative process and agency operations. At Rice, he is involved in the Jones Student Association and leads the Marketing Club as president. Parrish also interned at General Mills in Channel Marketing this summer.



RACHEL STANBERRY

Rice University

Rachel Stanberry is a second-year MBA candidate at Rice University, after earning her bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of Texas. After graduation, Stanberry managed fund-raising and operations for Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's campaign. She then worked at JHL Company as a fund-raising and communications consultant for non-profit organizations. Stanberry plans to combine her business skills and her passion for non-profit management to benefit her community.



SIOBHAN KILLALEA

Sam Houston State University

Siobhan Killalea is currently pursuing her MBA in management and marketing from Sam Houston State University, where she is president of the MBA Student Association and a dedicated student leader. Beyond her academic pursuits, Killalea teaches piano in her own studio and works as a copy editor for the International Association of Drilling Contractors. She plans to start a career in marketing communications after completing her MBA.



JENNIFER ANNE WATKINS

Sam Houston State University

Jennifer Watkins played college volleyball in Kansas, and then returned home to graduate with her BBA from Sam Houston State University in 2013. Watkins is currently the global HR coordinator for a medical device manufacturer in Conroe, Texas. She participates in HR Houston and has been active in the Society for Human Resource Management at SHSU. She recently started pursuing her MBA at SHSU.



WILLIAM LEIGHTON LAFUZE, JR.

Southern Methodist University

William LaFuze, a Houston native, graduated from Texas Christian University with a bachelor's degree in energy finance and later became an Energy Group associate at Wells Fargo Bank in Houston. In 2012, LaFuze started his own commercial real estate company with lease properties in Houston and Dallas. After graduating in 2014 with his MBA, LaFuze plans to work in the oil and gas industry, specializing in mergers and acquisitions.



KAREN RIBAR

Southern Methodist University

Karen Ribar is pursuing an MBA in strategy and finance at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business. Recently, Ribar worked as director of business development for The Knot.com, the top media and technology firm in the wedding industry. At The Knot, Ribar directed development of a mobile payment platform and investments in complementary businesses. Her previous experience includes senior roles in advisory services at PriceWaterhouseCoopers and audit and assurance with Deloitte.



CHRIS COSTLEY

St. Mary's University

Chris Costley is currently pursuing an MBA at St. Mary's Greehey School of Business. Costley works as a strategy and planning analyst for Kinetic Concepts Inc., a global medical technology company. In 2013, Costley started Siempre Investment Group and serves as managing partner for the real estate investment company. He lives with his wife and two children in San Antonio.



BENJAMIN HINOJOSA

St. Mary's University

Benjamin Hinojosa is pursuing an MBA from the Bill Greehey School of business at St. Mary's University. He majored in professional sales and minored in religion at Baylor University. Hinojosa is an owner of JBD Trucking LLC, a small trucking company operating out of Laredo, Texas. His long-term goal is to open a birthing center in the city of Laredo, after his wife, Alison, completes midwifery training.



KIMBERLY ANN KENNEDY

St. Mary's University

Kimberly Kennedy owns a fiber arts business, Kimbertimbers, where she designs and hand-creates custom silks, and produces and markets all her work. She is also a graphic designer for St. Mary's University and designs the university's flagship publication, the Gold & Blue magazine, among other communications. Kennedy also developed and implemented a complete re-brand of the institution's athletics division. She will complete her MBA at St. Mary's University in December 2014.



ANGELA RIZZO

St. Mary's University

Angela Rizzo was born in Germany, grew up in Washington D.C., and attends St. Mary's University as a Bill Greehey Scholar. She majors in corporate finance with a linguistic background (French, German and Japanese). Rizzo has participated in the Entrepreneurship Scholars Program and Harvard Public Policy and Leadership Conference which spurred her interest in international entrepreneurship. Rizzo recently completed a paid internship with Marsh & McLennan Companies in New York City.



ALYSSA R. GUTIERREZ

St. Philip's College

Alyssa R. Gutierrez has attended St. Philip's College since January 2013, working toward an associate's degree of Applied Sciences in Culinary Arts. After graduation, she will transfer to the University of Houston to pursue a bachelor's degree in hotel and restaurant management. She considers it an honor to be named one of the scholarship recipients. Gutierrez was born and raised in San Antonio and is happily married with a beautiful daughter.



LLOYD MCGUIRE

Texas A&M University

Lloyd McGuire will graduate this year with an MBA from Texas A&M University. He interned in private equity with The Blackstone Group LP. McGuire previously served as a U.S. Marine Corps judge advocate for five years, including a tour in Afghanistan, and worked for a law firm in Washington, D.C. He earned a J.D. from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. degree from Southwestern University. McGuire is married and has two sons.



GLENN ALLEN DECKER

Texas Christian University

After graduating from Texas Christian University and working with a private company in Fort Worth, Decker returned to TCU to pursue an MBA. He is currently serving as the president of the MBA Marketing Club, and during this past summer, worked for San Antonio-based USAA. While not a native Texan, Decker quickly developed a love for the state and enjoyed witnessing its growth first-hand during his years in Fort Worth.



JA'TEZ KELLY GARDNER

Texas Southern University

A Detroit native, Ja'Tez Gardner became a music enthusiast at a young age. He learned to play trumpet and French horn, and received multiple scholarship offers from several universities. Gardner attended Southern University in Louisiana, where he earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and sales. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in management information systems at Texas Southern University.



CRAIG MEURER

Texas State University

Craig Meurer is pursuing an MBA at Texas State University's McCoy School of Business. He has been involved in technology management and software design for more than 16 years, working with numerous Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurs. He is now focused on product management for web, smartphone and tablet applications. Additionally, Meurer has founded multiple successful web startups. After completing an MBA, he plans to teach and inspire entrepreneurs in emerging nations.



JACOB H. FEDOSKY

Texas Tech University

Jacob Fedosky is an undergraduate at Texas Tech University, studying management information systems. His first entrepreneurial venture began at age 15, when he started buying and selling domain names. Fedosky is now an independent domain name broker and president of High End Holdings, a premium domain name investment firm. He has been featured in a variety of domain industry publications, including a cover story in the Domain Name Journal in 2012.



JOSEPH KMETZ

Texas Tech University

Joseph Kmetz is a college senior pursuing a BBA in energy commerce from Texas Tech University's Rawls College of Business. His passion for business began when he launched a successful eBay venture in high school. Kmetz has completed energy-based internships with Phillips 66, the United States Congress and Anadarko Petroleum, and has studied in Spain, Brazil and Argentina. He plans to attend law school and pursue a career in energy law.



SOPHIE HEALY ROTH

University of Dallas

Sophie Healy Roth is pursuing her MBA from the University of Dallas. She earned her bachelor's degree from Tulane University. Roth began her career working with at-risk children for Communities in Schools. She transitioned to higher education, and now works with international graduate students at UD. Roth participates annually in the BvB Dallas football fund-raiser benefiting Alzheimer's research, and is currently involved in the Business and Society Network at UD.



NOOR DAOUDI

University of Houston

Noor Daoudi is a native Houstonian, with Syrian roots, and a lifelong interest in health and beauty. She has been one of the founders and directors of Xtreme Lashes since 2005, where she co-developed the eyelash extension procedure. Noor is currently studying entrepreneurship at the University of Houston. She plans to develop products and wellness solutions that illuminate natural beauty from the inside out.



JENESE SHAW

The University of the Incarnate Word

Jenese Shaw serves as a board member for United Christian Ministers Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving communities through education, service and mentorship. A San Antonio native, Shaw earned her BBA in marketing from Texas State University and is currently pursuing her MBA at The University of the Incarnate Word. After earning her MBA, Shaw plans to develop her own marketing and consulting firm.



RUSTY V. KARST

University of North Texas

Rusty V. Karst is completing his Ph.D. in strategic management at The University of North Texas. As a professor, entrepreneur and consultant, Karst is dedicated to bolstering the Texas economy, as well as the education and general progress of its residents. He teaches the critical success skills necessary in entrepreneurship and business management — in the classroom as a professor, and in the business community as a consultant.



NICOLE VELASQUEZ

University of Texas

Nicole Velasquez is a student at The University of Texas, McCombs School of Business. She is the co-president of the school's Graduate Women in Business organization and serves as a board fellow to the Girl Scouts of Central Texas. This summer, Velasquez worked with the global category marketing team at Starbucks Coffee. Previously, she worked at DonorsChoose.org, a national education nonprofit; Common Sense Media; and as an ESL teacher in South Korea.



ALEJANDRO JACOBO

University of Texas - Dallas

Alejandro Jacobo received his bachelor's degree in business at Texas A&M University. A Division I athlete, Jacobo was swim team captain and became an All-American in 2008. He has a master's degree in innovation and entrepreneurship from the University of Texas at Dallas, and is an MBA candidate. Jacobo won the UT-Dallas Business Idea Competition in 2012 and 2013, and co-founded Rollout, Inc., which provides innovative solutions for the architecture, engineering and construction industries.



KENNY OZUNA

University of Texas - Pan American

Kenny Ozuna owns an economic and finance consulting firm, Ozuna Analytics, L.L.C, and is a Ph.D. candidate in finance at The University of Texas-Pan American. He received his B.A. degree in economics from the University of North Texas and his MBA from UT-Pan American. After receiving his Ph.D. in finance, he intends to grow his firm by serving foreign investors seeking to enter the U.S. market.



TONY TAO YUAN

University of Texas - San Antonio

Tony Yuan is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the joint biomedical engineering program between The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas Health Sciences Center. In addition to developing his dissertation, he recently cofounded Mobile Stem Care, LLC, a mobile service that works with local veterinarian clinics to help treat degenerative conditions in animals. His motivation is to build a platform to bring advanced innovations to the public market.



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Gary Dudley
Paul Foster
Joseph M. "Jody" Grant
H-E-B
Rex W. Tillerson

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Frank A. Bennack, Jr.
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John L. Nau, III
Todd Wagner

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Colleen Barrett
Lee Roy Mitchell
Ross Perot, Jr.
Welcome Wilson, Sr.

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Robert D. Duncan
W.A. "Monty" Moncrief
W.A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr.
Harvey E. Najim

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Philip Romano
The Susser Family
Martha Fuller Turner

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Dick Evans
Mike A. Myers
Glen E. Roney
Kern Wildenthal, MD, PhD

2007

Tom Benson
Dr. James R. Leininger
Paul J. Sarvadi
Clayton W. Williams, Jr.

2006

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Dennis E. Nixon
Lee R. Raymond
Corbin J. Robertson, Jr.
Jeff Sandefer

2005

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Jerry Jones
T. Boone Pickens
Vin Prothro
Tim Word

2004

Tilman J. Fertitta
Matt F. Gorges
Peter Holt
Rosemary E. Kowalski
Lowell H. Lebermann, Jr.

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Reese M. Rowling
Robert B. Rowling

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Lee William "Bill" McNutt, Jr.
Robert D. Rogers

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Rod Canion
Don D. Jordan
Charles L. "Chuck" Watson

2000

Henry C. Beck, Jr.
Al Casey
A.R. "Tony" Sanchez, Jr.
Roger Staubach
H.B. Zachry, Jr.
H.B. Zachry, Sr.

1999

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Tom Friedkin
The Caroline Rose Hunt Family
L. Lowry Mays
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Eckhard Pfeiffer

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Michael Dell
Harold Hook
S. Roger Horchow
Red McCombs

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Lamar Hunt
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Fayez Sarofim
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Anne Windfohr Marion
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William T. Solomon
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Joe M. Dealey
Robert W. Decherd
William Stamps Farish
W. Carlross Morris
Stewart Morris
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Charles G. Cullum
Robert B. Cullum
John P. Harbin
George P. Mitchell
John V. Roach

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Robert R. Onstead
Ambassador Robert S. Strauss
Ben Taub

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Tammell Crow
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Walter M. Mischer, Sr.
Eddy C. Scurlock
Gus S. Wortham

1984

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William Clayton
J.M. Haggard, Sr.
Oveta Culp Hobby
Stanley Marcus
Clint W. Murchison, Jr.
Sid Richardson
John Shary
Joe C. Thompson
Sam Young, Sr.
Joe Zeppa

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