

# B

Section

# LIFE

## Monet, meet Hendrix

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE—Claude Monet, meet Jimi Hendrix. Vincent van Gogh, meet Captain Kirk. The unlikely pairings are the result of a new fine-art show, scheduled to open April 8, at the Experience Music Project, the Seattle pop-culture museum dedicated to rock-and-roll and the adjoining Science Fiction Museum, a showcase of Klingons and other extraterrestrials.

For the first time, Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, the museums' primary benefactor, has opened up his private art collection. Twenty-eight works, some not seen in public for more than 50 years, will be



Hendrix

on display under the same metallic, multi-hued Frank Gehry-designed roof that holds some of the other cool stuff Allen's collect-

ed. Down the hall from Renoir, Seurat and Picasso is Jimi Hendrix's guitar, Darh Vader's helmet and Michael Jackson's jeweled glove.

"Is it that much different from Egyptian art being next to Italian art?" said Paul Hayes Tucker, the exhibit's curator. "It's all relative."

Allen was not immediately available for an interview, said Christian Quilici, an EMP spokesman.

Tucker, a Monet expert, was selected by EMP and Allen's people to search through Allen's "big" art collection—they won't say how big—and pick out some of the works Tucker thought would engage a mass audience. He said the initial idea was to feature impressionist works and show how radically they changed the art world in the late 19th century.

But he said today's museum visitors don't see impressionism for what it was. Monet, Van Gogh and Renoir have become ubiquitous images in popular culture, he said.

Rather than explaining the art history behind impressionism—how Monet and others brought more realistic images of everyday life to museum walls that once were dominated by pristine classical scenes—Tucker said he wanted the art work to tell the story.

So Tucker, an art-history professor from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, came up with an idea as radical as putting Gauguin under the same roof as Elton John's Goodbye Yellow Brick Road costume.

The show, aptly titled "DoubleTake," groups impressionist and contemporary works in an unprecedented way, Tucker said.

He's placed a lush Renoir portrait of a girl next to a giant Roy Lichtenstein cartoon-like painting of a blonde bombshell. Fifteenth century Flemish painter Jan Brueghel-The Younger is grouped with Georges Seurat, the 19th century Pointillist, and Pablo Picasso, the famous Cubist. A tranquil Monet water lily painting hangs next to a fiery, angry painting by American abstract expressionist Willem de Kooning.

"We all continue to learn from Monet," Tucker said. "I'd like to think all his impressionist and postimpressionist friends will be seen anew."

Museum officials expect about 100,000 people to pay \$8 to view the exhibit in the six months it will be in Seattle.



PHOTOS/WADE NASH

With the NASCAR Hall of Fame coming, Charlotte is sure to be a destination city, but will blacks visit Charlotte?

## Tourist trappings

When it comes to black attractions, Charlotte's behind times

By Cheris F. Hodges

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With the addition of the NASCAR Hall of Fame, Charlotte boosters are touting the city as a destination site in the making.

But is it a favorite visiting spot for black travelers?

According to the Travel Industry Association of America, blacks overwhelmingly consider Atlanta as their favorite city to visit.

Charlotte doesn't even rank in the top 10, according to TIAA spokesman Allen Kay. But that could change.

"Anything can turn a city into a destination city. For example, in Orlando, it's the theme parks," he said. "Almost any city the size of Charlotte would be a good regional destination."

The report stated that Atlanta's climate and opportunities for African

American entrepreneurs leads to many visitors staying in the city.

Charlotte, which is a little less than four hours from Atlanta, is the home of the Charlotte Bobcats, the only professional sports team owned by an African American and is the host of the CIAA basketball tournament through 2008. Charlotte is also the home of historically black Johnson C. Smith University.

But what else does the

city offer for blacks?

"Charlotte has a lot of universal attractions that cross cultural lines," said Delilah Counts of the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority. "With the NASCAR Hall of Fame coming here, there will be a push to get more minority involvement in the sport."

According to Wikipedia, only about 10 percent of NASCAR fans are black, and that has

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## Winemakers make pitch for manly men

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALDSBURG, Calif.—They are making macho merlot in California wine country.

Hot on the stiletto heels of last year's wines-for-women trend, new releases from Ray's Station Vineyards in Sonoma County are being pitched to the Y-chromosome set as "Hearty Red Wines for Men."

The bottling of the sexes seems to be part of a wider industry trend that includes cute labels and easier-to-use packaging. Vintners want to break from the pack by making wines more consumer friendly.

"You face this challenge: How do you even get people to know you're alive?" said Robert Smiley, a management professor at the University

of California, Davis, who follows the wine industry. Considering the fierce competition to get noticed among the hundreds of brands lining store shelves, gender vending is "not a bad strategy to try," he said.

Last year, wine for women was the theme with brands such as Mad Housewife from Rainier Wine and White Lie Early Season chardonnay from Beringer making news.

Wines marketed to women may be finding an audience.

ACNielsen supermarket data on eight wines aimed at women indicated the brands, some of which are in limited distribution, accounted for \$10 million of the approximately \$8 billion in wine sales for the year ending Feb. 11.

Wine, especially the higher-end vintages, has long been considered a man's world. But the people behind the Ray's Station campaign say there is an overlooked audience in the backyard barbecuer and NASCAR auto racing fan who enjoys wine but has not made a hobby of it.

"These guys, they're married; they've got a couple of kids," said Brian Hilliard, who heads up marketing for Ray's Station. "Wine is part of their lives, but it's not integrated in a way that they really force themselves to be knowledgeable."

Ray's Station is selling a merlot and cabernet sauvignon both priced at about \$15 and made mostly with

Please see MACHO/2B

## Biking, walking to photograph churches

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HENDERSON, N.C.—If you ask Adrienne Camfield if she is homeless, she will tell you emphatically that home is wherever she and her two dogs spend the night, whether it's lying on the ground outdoors close to a church, or inside a cheap motel room if the weather is bad and they are lucky enough to have the money. "If the dogs can't stay in the motel, I don't go." Every day is lived hand to mouth. Camfield makes sure her companions eat, even if she doesn't. It always have dog food on me.

The stress of her lifestyle for nearly three years has taken its toll on Camfield, who appears to be in her early- to mid-60s. Wind, rain, heat and cold have discolored her skin, grayed her hair and etched in facial lines that show up between her eyes and nose when she grins broadly or squints at the sun. She is 41.

Her laugh, which often kicks in unexpectedly and sometimes inappropriately, could be described as a well modulated cackle. It ends abruptly, followed by a shriek that could crack a pane of glass, if one happens to be around.

The trek by bicycle and on foot along the East Coast's highways began in Revere, Mass. on June 17, 2003. It is scheduled to end this year, on its third anniversary, in Atlantic City, N.J.

Her "artistic journey," as she calls it, involves visiting the original 13 colonies to "take pictures of places where people go to believe in God. It's not so much a 'religious journey' where I am trying to find myself."

For five days this week, a lot of people in Henderson saw an unusual parade downtown and on some side streets.

Part of the short procession consisted of Camfield pushing her red-and-silver "Salvation Army" bicycle. Mounted on the back was a



FILE PHOTO

cart loaded down with clothes, blankets and everything else she owns. A camera was almost always hanging around her neck.

Padding amiably along close behind on their leashes were her two best friends.

Goldie, a 12-year-old golden retriever/chow mix, was pregnant when Camfield found her abandoned near Ocala, Fla., six years ago.

Camfield stayed in Florida long enough for Goldie to have her puppies,

and to find homes for them.

Jake, an eight-month-old "mutt," has spent most of his life on the road with his mistress since she paid \$5 for him somewhere back in South Carolina.

When they were in Richmond, Va., a friend Camfield had never met before paid for Jake to be spayed and to get all of his shots.

Goldie is in her golden years, too old now to run or trot beside the bike if it is

Please see BIKERS/3B



## Fighting health disparities

"Communities of color suffer disproportionately from diabetes, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, cancer, stroke and infant mortality. Eliminating these and other health disparities is a priority.

Former U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson

The Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health at Wake Forest University Health Sciences was founded in 2002. Named after our own Dr. Maya Angelou, the center's goal is to improve the quality of life and well-being for minorities in North Carolina and across the nation. The center addresses these issues at a time when the federal government has made minority health and eliminating racial health disparities a national priority.

What are health disparities? The word "disparity" means, "a condition or fact of being unequal, as in rank, degree, or age." The words inequality, uniqueness, and difference have a similar meaning. The phrase 'racial health disparities' refers to inequality in health status, based on one's race. African-Americans and other minorities continue to experience higher rates and increased death due to certain illnesses, compared to whites. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified 6 main health disparity areas. These are: Diabetes, Heart Disease, Cancer, HIV/AIDS, Infant Mortality, and Immunizations.

Two minor disparity areas have also been identified: Mental Health and Asthma. Most of us know someone in our family or community who has been affected by these conditions. What causes health disparities? There are many factors that contribute to the current status of minority health and health inequities. Genetics, while important in certain conditions, plays only a small role in the major disparities that we see today. Access to health care (having health insurance and the ability to obtain health care services) is a major contributing factor. We also know that lifestyle or behaviors (such as diet, exercise, and safe sex) and environmental factors (such as stress and exposure to toxins) also play a role in a person's health. And more recently, studies have shown that even when health insurance and access to health care services are available, the quality of care received is not always the same. Minorities are often less likely than whites to receive needed medical services when they go to the healthcare system.

Community outreach and health education are priority areas for the Angelou Research Center. Knowledge is power. Identifying and thinking about problems are early steps in changing behaviors and adopting the healthiest lifestyles for you and your family. To this purpose, we are proud to announce "The People's Clinic." Each week, we will provide health and healthcare information that is up-to-date, understandable, and relevant to you!

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