Prior to the Cowboys’ Monday night game against the Eagles on September 15, the excitement for the new Cowboys Stadium surged onto the airwaves. This would be the last game between the Eagles and Cowboys in Texas Stadium. In fact, the Cowboys will soon play their last game ever at Texas Stadium.

Irving has been home to the Dallas Cowboys for the last 37 years and it has seen many firsts and lasts. Cowboy fans, wearing their favorite players’ jersey, can now be seen along North Collins and Randol Mill taking their first peek at the new stadium. Although taking a peek seems to be the wrong word since the stadium is the one the world’s mega structures.

The roof on the stadium is the first of its kind in North America. The installation of the retractable roof has started and can be easily seen from North Collins Street. When complete, the roof will cover 660,800 square feet, one of the largest domed sports structures in the world. It’s almost the size of twelve football fields sitting on top of the stadium; not to mention that the retractable roof will open or close in 12 minutes.

(continued, next page)
Finance Update

In November 2004, Arlington voters overwhelming voted yes, authorizing the City of Arlington to provide planning, acquisition, construction and financing for the Cowboys Complex Development Project. The authorization was for a total of $325 million dollars.

During the past four years, the City has worked closely with the Cowboys on the Stadium Project. Since construction began in 2005, the City has split expenses with the Cowboys. During this time, the City has concentrated on land purchases and related expenditures. The City’s portion of the stadium’s costs has slowly grown until, during this quarter, the City’s match for the stadium approached the $325 million cap. The City’s portion of expenses, to date, is $318,999,999. The remaining amount has been encumbered to pay for outstanding obligations.

Also during this quarter, the declining national economy began to impact a portion of stadium bonds that had variable rate interest. While monthly interest rates on the variable bonds have notably increased in recent months, debt service costs remain below what the costs would have been if the bonds were fixed rate because of the savings accrued from the first three years of financing. As credit market conditions improve, the City will complete the refinancing of $164 million in bonds.

Cover story continued

Installation of the stadium’s 48,000 reserved seats started on the Mid-Main level of the stadium in September. To-date approximately 1,500 of the blue vinyl seats have been installed in the southwest corner of the stadium. The Cowboys trademark star is embossed on the backrest and will certainly be filled with Cowboys’ fans on opening day 2009.

The concession stands on the Main Concourse are proceeding steadily, with wall construction, tile, floors, and equipment being installed. Mock-ups of the display screens are temporarily in place to work out design details. The plan is to provide the fans with every opportunity to see the game while standing in line for refreshments. (continued on page 3)
Assembly of the world’s largest scoreboard has begun. The initial frame structure is being assembled on the playing field. When complete, the scoreboard will be 72’ tall, 160’ long, weigh 1.3 million lbs, and hang 90’ above the playing field. It is anticipated that the scoreboard will be hoisted and installed mid – December.

The south side glass installation was completed in June 2008. Workers have been installing the north side glass since June and completed the job in late October.

Outside the stadium, the parking lots and grounds are beginning to take shape. Parking lots have been paved, sidewalks installed and rock retaining walls erected. External landscaping will begin in late winter 2009.

Get Cowboys Stadium Updates!
View construction progress by accessing the live webcam on the City of Arlington’s website at www.arlingtontx.gov/cowboys. This site also contains the latest news on the development as well as announcements such as Super Bowl XLV to be played in Arlington in 2011. The Cowboys web page is your source for staying informed.
PHOTO gallery

The Photo Gallery captures this quarter’s construction milestones. Photography courtesy of the City of Arlington and the Dallas Cowboys.
Oliver Clayton wanted to provide basic job training skills to at-risk youth when he started his plumbing and repair business in 1994.

“I looked around in my community and saw a lot of disadvantaged youth looking for opportunities against all odds,” he said. “I wanted the community to be a part of what I was doing.”

After 17 years as a regional maintenance manager over construction with Trammel Crow, Oliver Clayton started Clayton’s Services.

Since then, his company has provided job training for hundreds of youth in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The company has grown from two to 10 full-time employees. Last month, Clayton’s Services completed a $327,000 contract for plumbing services at the new Cowboys Stadium.

In a partnership with TD Industry, his company installed, anchored and connected more than 100,000 feet of cast-iron and copper pipe at the stadium site. By comparison, a 5,000-square-foot home would require only about 400 square feet of cast-iron pipe, he said.

The completion of the project means proper drainage for water and sewer from suites, rest rooms and concessions, which will serve hundreds of thousands of football fans.

“We stepped out on faith,” he said, noting the support he received from family and friends at Friendship West Baptist Church. “The Cowboys Stadium project was a community within a community. It is by far the biggest project we have ever worked on.”

Clayton’s Services has enjoyed much success in securing contracts with the City of Dallas, Builders of Hope, Quorum Commercial and American Home Shield, a Dallas-based warranty home repair company. In 1999, Clayton founded Rebuilding Our Communities (RBOC), which trains and mentors disadvantaged children and adults.

In addition to the Cowboys Stadium, helping the community is among his company’s biggest accomplishments to date.

Clayton is a 1980 graduate of David W. Carter High School in Dallas. His wife and business partner, Tammy, is a 1983 graduate of the same school.

“God has gifted us to have the skills and to make a difference,” he said. “We have seen kids grow up to raise their families and start their own businesses.”

Learn more about Clayton’s Services by calling 214-948-1563 or visiting the Dallas office at 2108 S. Edgefield, Suite B. ★

Oliver Clayton is owner of Clayton’s Services of Dallas.

Coming Next Quarter:
More minority and women-owned firms are working on the Cowboys Stadium. Watch for a new company spotlight next quarter.
To learn more about the M/WBE program, call K Strategies, Inc. at 214-599-9766 or www.kstrategies.com.
The Dallas Cowboys and Optimist Club of Arlington Football- Becoming a Tradition

The Dallas Cowboys helped the Optimist Club of Arlington kickoff the club’s 56th football season at the Harold Patterson Sports Complex on September 13. Dozens of OCA volunteers run the club’s football program that has been a tradition for thousands of Arlington youth and families for more than 5 decades. This season 1,400 football players will be cheered on by 600 cheerleaders from pre-k through 6th grade.

On opening day, two of the world famous Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders took part in the ceremony which included remarks from Arlington Bowie and Arlington Martin head football coaches Kenny Perry and Bob Wager, Arlington City Council member Jimmy Bennett, Arlington City Council and Optimist Club member Robert Rivera and OCA officials John Palmarchuk, Football Chairman, Raul Gonzalez, President-Elect and Gerald Casey, President.

The growing partnership between the Dallas Cowboys and the Optimist Club of Arlington will assist both organizations in their mission to make Arlington a great place for kids to grow up and thrive. The Dallas Cowboys are proud to have been a part of the Optimist Club of Arlington’s opening day festivities since 2004. They continue their part this year providing Dallas Cowboys players, former players, Cheerleaders, Rowdy and the Hall of Fame trailer. This partnership between the OCA and the Dallas Cowboys creates another great Arlington tradition.

Cowboys partner with American Heart Association

The Dallas Cowboys partnered with the American Heart Association and the National Football League to inspire youth to get moving as part of the What Moves U Challenge.

Ferguson Junior High School seventh and eighth grade students logged the most activity journals for staying active and won a visit from the Dallas Cowboys Rookie Club on September 30. Rowdy, the team’s official mascot, joined the pep rally, which attracted more than 600 students. The rally was followed by one-on-one activities with players.

Ferguson Junior High School Principal David Tapia said the goal is to inspire students to exercise in an age of computers and video games.

“The students got a chance to hear from the guys they watch on Sunday,” he said. “This lesson on physical activity will stay with them a long time.”

The What Moves U Challenge is a national youth movement and awareness campaign designed to promote physical fitness and healthy living to an increasingly inactive generation of children. For more information, visit www.WhatMovesU.com.
Street Improvements

Randol Mill Road east of State Highway 360 to Great Southwest Parkway is being reconstructed and widened from an existing four-lane divided street to a six-lane divided street.

Roadway construction started this summer with all traffic shifted to the north half of the roadway while contractors began reconstructing the south half of Randol Mill Road.

In February 2009, contractors will be completing the south half of Randol Mill and all traffic will be shifted to the new pavement as the north half is reconstructed. The entire project is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2009.

Coming up: This fall, check out the plans for roadway improvements on Collins Street from Sanford Street to Randol Mill Road. Contractors will install new right turn lanes. Watch for road work to begin in November.

What is the Entertainment District?
The Entertainment District is home to popular family attractions such as Six Flags Over Texas, Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Hurricane Harbor, Lincoln Square and the new Cowboys Stadium. The district is bound by Division Street on the south, Lamar Boulevard on the north, Stadium Drive on the east and Center Street on the west.

Learn more at www.ariingtontx.gov/business/entertainmentdistrict.html.

SH 360 and Division Street Improvements Move Forward

Construction is slated to begin in March 2009 on two new bridges at Division Street and State Highway 360 in Arlington. This $55.9 million project also includes continuous frontage roads and improved ramp access.

Thanks to a cooperative effort of business leaders, elected officials and the Texas Department of Transportation, the SH 360 project at Division Street is moving forward.

The project is made possible by a cooperative agreement with Union Pacific Railroad. Helping to facilitate the agreement was U.S. Representative Kay Granger, Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck.

“Removing the traffic bottleneck in this area has been a high priority for the Arlington City Council, and we appreciate the support of all of the groups who worked together to make this project a reality,” Cluck said.

Utility relocations are currently under way in this area.

Jason Crawford, a project manager with the I-30 Mobility Task Force, said improvements on the Division Street/SH 360 Interchange will improve safety and travel efficiency in the area.

Before you go!

Register to receive e-mail alerts about I-30 construction and lane closures at www.keep30moving.org. This website also includes helpful links to www.traffic.com, where you can check your drive time and access panoramic views of the area.

For more information about roadway improvement projects planned in the Entertainment District, call the City of Arlington Department of Public Works at 817.459.6550 or visit the City of Arlington website at www.ArlingtonTx.gov keyword search Entertainment District.