

ATKINSON GATES ANNOUNCES \$450,000 GRANT FOR WLW CHILDHOOD CENTER

Clark County Commissioner Yvonne Gates announced a \$450,000 Community Development Block grant (CDBG) from the County for development of an Early Childhood Center in West Las Vegas. The 10,000 square foot facility, to be funded and developed as a collaborative effort between a number of entities in Clark County, will be located on property in the West Las Vegas area.

Commissioner Gates said the West Las Vegas Early Childhood Center will be designed to provide services to children that



YVONNE ATKINSON-GATES

create opportunities for success. "The key to our programs will be actively involving the parents with the children's education programs," Gates explained. "By creating parent/teacher teams, we can maintain a continuity between home and the center, greatly enhancing a child's chances for future school success." The \$450,000 in CDBG funds will fund half of the esti-

mated \$900,000 cost for constructing Phase One of the facility.

A three-phase educational program has been developed for the West Las Vegas Early Childhood Center. Phase One calls for the School District and EOB Head Start Program to operate special education classroom units and speech and language therapy services. One

classroom will be designated for preschool students with developmental delays and mildly disabling conditions and a second classroom will be designated for students with more significant delays. The Head Start Program will operate diagnostic classrooms and will be teamed with the School District's Early Childhood Special Education Program. Upon completion of diag-

nostic treatment, children may be placed in the third Head Start unit which will serve as a transition program or in other Head Start programs. A Clark County School District speech therapist will provide speech and language therapy.

Phase Two will provide an infant/toddler wing of approximately 4,000 square feet, and (See Grant, Page 22)

BLACK PANTHER PARTY OFFERS TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR BLACK STUDENTS



RON CURRENT, PRESIDENT OF THE LAS VEGAS CHAPTER OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

By Muhammed Abdullah

In response to the recent racist attacks on Black students and other minorities by White hate groups in some of the Sunrise Mountain neighborhoods, the Black Panther Party has volunteered to provide security for African-American and students-of-color who might become victimized by similar incidences of violence.

Ron Current, President of the Las Vegas Chapter of the Black Panther Party, in an exclusive interview with the SENTINEL-VOICE, commented recently on the extent of the nature of security for students as they walk to

their respective bus stops and await the school buses.

"Well, what we would like to do is have members of the Security Force of the Black Panther Party either drive with the children as they go to the bus stops, make sure that the children get on the buses, and when they get off the buses, do the same thing until each of these children get home. That's going to be a heavy undertaking. I think, generally, the problem tends to be in one general area. So we will start with that general area," he said.

Current stated that he would (See Black Panthers, Page 22)



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