

ACLU

(Continued from Page 1) all," says Ann Occhi, an RN who accepted the award in behalf of her departed friend. Occhi continued to say that Bechtel's deathbed wish was typical of her unselfish nature. "She wanted me to tell everyone that we must always strive to work out the differences that we encounter with one another." State Senator Lori Lipman-Brown delivered a speech which aimed at unity. Brown credited ACLU in its endeavors to unify and protect the rights of the less fortunate. As a freshman senator, Brown made an immediate impact in the field of human rights. She is credited with repealing Nevada's long-standing sodomy law, which prohibited homosexual acts among consenting adults. Her interests in SIDS and consumer protection earned her high credits from her fellow senators.

An awkward point in the afternoon's festivities came when Community Peace Chairman, Elgin Simpson, delivered his acceptance speech. Simpson began his oratory with the statement: "some of you aren't going to like what I'm going to say."

CONFERENCE

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national convention in July in Philadelphia, PA. One of the highlights of the conference will be the luncheon on Saturday, May 21, at 12:00 noon, with Dr. Julianne Malveaux of San Francisco as the guest speaker. Dr. Maleaux is National First Vice President of NANB&PWC and is well known as a writer, educator and economist. She provides regular radio and television commentary on sociopolitical issues on CNN's "CNN and Company," and as a panelist on the PBS show "To the Contrary." Dr. Malveaux will autograph her latest book "Sex, Lies and Stereotypes."

Workshops will be held for adults and youth. Participants include Catherine Sykes, National President of NANB&PWC, Julius Taylor, Director of Hotel Operations, Tropicana Hotel, Tony Gladney, Community Affairs Manager, MGM, Faye Duncan Daniel, the first African-American woman hotel manager in Las Vegas, Patricia Morse Jarman, administrator, Office For Hospital Patients, Shirley Carroll, Administrative Specialist, and Cleopatra Vaughns, District Parliamentarian.

Barbara Belford of Oakland is District Governor, Dorothy Boswell of Las Vegas, Vice Governor, and Almetra Finley is President of the Las Vegas Club. For information about the conference and tickets call (702) 454-8827.

Photo by Susan Noonan

Simpson continued to lambast the Clark County Public Defenders office, calling it biased and unresponsive. The banquet room was without echo as Simpson delivered his speech before the capacity crowd-inclusive of several members of the defenders office. He prefaced his comments by noting the defenders office was made up of several qualified attorneys, yet the administration was simply "not worth a damn". Some members of the audience seemed horrified while some welcomed the explicit honesty. Further reasoning for Simpson's disdain with the public defenders office was its unresponsiveness to minorities. "Some public



AIDS Doctor Lisa Bechtel given posthumous award during ACLU brunch. Bechtel was a staunch advocate of AIDS related research. defenders simply telephone their clients, and don't even take time to visit them in jail to learn about their case; subsequently not providing an adequate legal representation," says Simpson.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

(Continued from Page 1) become a primary goal, according to Young. "We teach them how to be assertive in a positive way, instead of being aggressive," she says.

The program is funded, in part, by the Las Vegas Housing Authority, which has a housing complex directly across the street from the A.D. Guy unit. Neighborhood businesses provide additional support in the way of T-shirts and other assorted extras.

An important requirement for youths to participate in the program is attendance in classroom activities.

Children are given life-skills courses with anti-drug, gang, and

sexual promiscuity instruction provided. One youth, Luke Jones, says the program gives him a place to go after school. "It keeps me out of trouble, and it's really fun to learn," Jones commented following his near grand-slam baseball hit during the

afternoon's baseball game. Jones says he wants to be a professional athlete in either football or baseball. He did, however, have a supplemental goal of being a computer scientist should his athletic career run stagnant

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