

GIVES SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO 200 NEEDY KIDS

EOB HOLDS BACK-TO-SCHOOL RALLY

By Victor S. Ingram
The Economic Opportunity Board's Project Home program sponsored a back-to-school event for nearly 200 needy kids and families. Back-packs stuffed

with school essentials were presented as children prepared to return to Clark County schools.

VONS

(Continued from Page 1)

Miller is working her first job and is elated at the aspect of the store in the community. "It's in the middle of everything," she adds.

Store checker Barbara Drew beams when she talks about the store. A 19-year veteran of Vons Grocery, she became elated at the thought of a store coming to the black community. She

immediately transferred to the new store once she heard it was forthcoming. A 35-year resident of West Las Vegas, Drew says the negative perception of the West Las Vegas is totally false. "Some people choose to live in West Las Vegas and think its a fine place to live." "Those of us who live here, I think they should allow us a voice and tell people how we live." Businesses, she

adds, are critical to the survival of the community. "If everyone went outside the community then who would be there to support the community."

Once approached by a customer, Drew's attention shifted. "This sure is nice, when is Magic going to be here?" questioned the customer regarding super star Magic Johnson's anticipated arrival on Friday for the grand opening gala ceremonies. "I'm not concerned about Magic," replied Drew. "I'm concerned about you...you're my job security."



Back-packs stuffed with school essentials were presented as children prepared to return to Clark County schools. Photo by Victor Ingram

The event, held on Thursday, August 24, at the KCEP FM 88.1 studio, brought smiles to the faces of parents and kids. Backpacks and supplies were provided by individuals and local businesses who donated to the event. The event is aimed at homeless and needy children who normally would start school without the bear classroom essentials, according to event coordinator Shawna Parker. Pencils, pens, staplers, crayons, rulers, candy, and other assorted snacks were stuffed into gender-based back packs. Now in its 5th year, the event is to provide homeless children with one less excuse for not attending and subsequently doing well in

school. "Children need to fit in," says Parker. Parker comments that the lack of basic supplies causes a child to stand out and be teased by other children. "It's the peer pressure," she adds.

Clark County School District Homeless Coordinator, Ina Dorman, visits local homeless shelters on a daily basis and ensures that homeless kids attend school. Dorman participated in Thursday's event by providing information on the school district resources and procedures on getting homeless children to school. When families become homeless, says Dorman, the children suffer the most. "There are many reasons

why a family becomes homeless. The children are the victims because they have no control over what is going on." District policy mandates that families must have a permanent address in order for kids to attend school. This, says Dorman, is oftentimes a huge obstacle to a homeless family. During her shelter visits, Dorman provides transitional paperwork to get a child back to school while the family seeks stability. "Once a family becomes homeless, it's very, very, hard to become stabilized." Satisfaction, she adds, comes from seeing a once distraught family find adequate housing and their children become stellar students.

Best Selling Author To Speak At NFBPA Annual Luncheon



Dr. Dennis Kimbro, best selling author of *Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice*, will be the featured speaker at the annual luncheon of the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. The luncheon will take place on Saturday, September 23, in the Caribbean Room of the Tropicana Hotel. A silent auction and a no-host mixer will begin at 11 a.m., with the luncheon beginning at 12:00 noon. For further information, reservations and ticket prices, call Phyllis Hargrove, City of Las Vegas, at 229-6893, or Debbie Hargrove, Clark County, at 455-5025.

National Conference Seeks 1996 Community Heroes

The National Conference, previously the National Conference of Christians and Jews, is seeking nominations for the 1996 Community Hero Awards. Each year the organization selects community leaders, both unknown and well known, who have contributed to the quality of life in southern Nevada through volunteerism and/or corporate support.

A Community Hero is a person who, through long-term community involvement or by a single heroic act, has improved appreciation of diverse publics in Southern Nevada. The national Conference seeks your support in identifying nominees who are advocates in the fight to increase respect, tolerance and understanding in the community for people of diverse races, religions and cultures.

Each hero will be honored during the annual Community Hero Victory Dinner, scheduled to be held on February 1, 1996 at Caesars Palace. Information on the awards dinner and the 1996 Community Heroes nomination program may be obtained by calling the offices of the National Conference at 387-6225.

Previous honorees include: Dave Washington, Selma Bartlett, Mayor Jan Jones, Ray Vega, Larry Woolf, Mujahid Ramadan, Chuck Lenzie, R & R Advertising, Community Peace, Arte Nathan, Frank Hawkins, Senator Ray Rawson, and the late Bishop E. N. Webb.

FBI

(Continued from Page 1) that I'm helping people," says Siller. A job which involves sedition of the U.S. government, national and international drug trafficking, mass murderers, kidnapers, bank robberies, and terrorism can have its degree of job stress. Siller says the job is still challenging and rewarding

despite job-related rigors. His concern, however, is in the changing climate of criminal activity. "Carrying out the responsibility of an agent today is much more difficult." "(Criminals) are better equipped and have no respect for the law. It's a more dangerous job now than when I first joined." The

over-glamorization by television, adds Siller, perpetrates the violence that today's law enforcement officers face. "In reality agents are more caring and more respectful of the law than what is portrayed on television," he says. The issue of African Americans (See FBI, Page 20)

Nika Ayanna Sewell Crowned Royal Supreme Queen Of Recent Starbound USA Baby Pageant

Nika Ayanna Sewell, daughter of Gwen Walker and Rod Sewell, was crowned 1st Place Beauty Winner of the 7-9 month contestants; 2nd place photo winner and overall Royal Supreme Queen at the Starbound USA Baby Pageant.

Nika wore a beautiful African design dress made by her mom, with matching socks and a crown. Because she doesn't quite walk alone yet, she strolled across the stage pushing a toddlers shopping cart decorated with matching fabric as her dress, filled with an assortment of other authentic African fabrics. Little Nika has been taught she was born an African Queen, and



this experience will be added memories for her to enjoy in the years to come.

Nika, along with her family,

would like to thank all of her many sponsors and well-wishers for helping to make her success possible.

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