

LAS VEGAS

Sentinel Voice

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 21

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

September 26, 1996

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Madison Avenue landlord Darryl Jackson said Wednesday's bust was long overdue.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

Police raid crack spots

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

The federally-funded Weed and Seed Task Force, which has been criticized for the slow pace of the law enforcement and social service programs, made a drug bust of eight suspect drug houses in West Las Vegas Wednesday.

Sixteen people were arrested on various drug possession, distribution and outstanding warrant charged. Two who were sought on charges were already in custody on unrelated charges; the name of one juvenile also taken into custody was not released.

Facing federal drug indictments are: Armando Dangerfield, 27; Jaime Gregory, 21; Marcus Lambert, 23; Angie Clark, 31; Marshall Burgess, 19; Darren King, 29; Annette Lee, 22; Jennifer Wright, 22; Demetrius Kidd, 22; Jasper Robertson, 24; Sawanna Bousley, 22; Anthony Lynch, 32; Frederick Anthony Johnson, 20; and Deshawna

Monei Bernard, 22.

Police are still searching for 11 additional suspects.

The distribution suspects, who were arrested without incident, are believed to be part of the Back Street Crips, a neighborhood gang.

Investigators from two local police departments along with the FBI raided seven West Las Vegas homes and another home believed to be the distribution center, said Debbie Calhoun, a Las Vegas-based FBI special agent.

The addresses were: 705 Adams, 3731 Blue Lake, 3148 Ferndale, 709 Jefferson, 704 Madison, 703 Madison and 712 McWilliams.

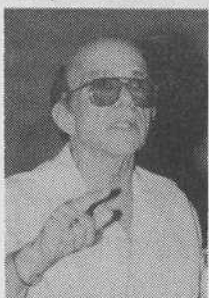
Portions of the search warrant indicated investigators were looking for anything that could link the suspects to drug sales like packaging and processing materials, records of transactions, photographs or firearms.

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Music biz conference a big hit

By Carl Chamberlain
Sentinel-Voice

A capacity house of nearly 300 aspiring recording artists, songwriters and radio personalities attended the "Business of the Music Conference" at the West Las Vegas Library Theater this past weekend.



JACK
"The Rapper"
GIBSON

The first-of-its-kind event was sponsored by the Economic Opportunity Board's Micro Business Program and KCEP Radio FM 88.

The conference, which was organized by EOB's Micro Business Program Coordinator Kimberly Bailey, featured a series of workshops presented by music business professionals, live entertainment and informal networking sessions. Highlights including the sessions that offered lively discussion on record deals, radio, marketing, and the life and death of Tupac Shakur.

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NEW BEGINNINGS

New centers for children host openings

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

Twelve-year-old Hydeia Broadbent tearfully thanked the founding mothers of Reach Out, a learning center for HIV-positive and AIDS-infected kids, at Friday's long-awaited opening of the group's first permanent facility.

"Your strength and your courage have brought you together for one horrible disease," Broadbent said as she broke into tears. "You have loved us with all of your heart and we thank you for all that you have done."

"You were brought together for something so mean and horrible, but yet you turned it around and made us smile and happy out of it," she said.

Reach Out currently serves 69 Las Vegas children offering AIDS education and self-esteem classes to kids like Broadbent, who has lived with the disease for more than nine years.

Twenty-one additional children will be served the 6,500 square foot facility, which also includes a new health clinic and playground. Reach Out will lease the 1522 Pinto Lane building from Clark County for \$1 a year.

The HIV learning center's opening was the first of two separate mid-day celebrations marked the openings of the daycare centers for special-needs kids. Both projects were jointly funded by the city of Las Vegas and the county.

The second facility, the Yvonne Atkinson Gates Early Childhood Development Center, was named after the county commissioner and former Clark County School District trustee. Gates is widely credited for coordinating the nearly \$2.3 million in



From front left, County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson-Gates is joined by trustee Dr. James McMillan, Commissioner Lorraine Hunt, trustee Judy Witt and City of Las Vegas official Sharon Segerblom during WLVS Development Center ribbon cutting ceremony Friday at the Washington Avenue facility.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

funding needed for both projects.

"I look at today as a day of beginnings. It's a beginning for a number of kids who have HIV and AIDS," said Gates at the Reach Out opening.

"I want to help in every way that I can to give kids the same opportunities that were given to me," Gates said.

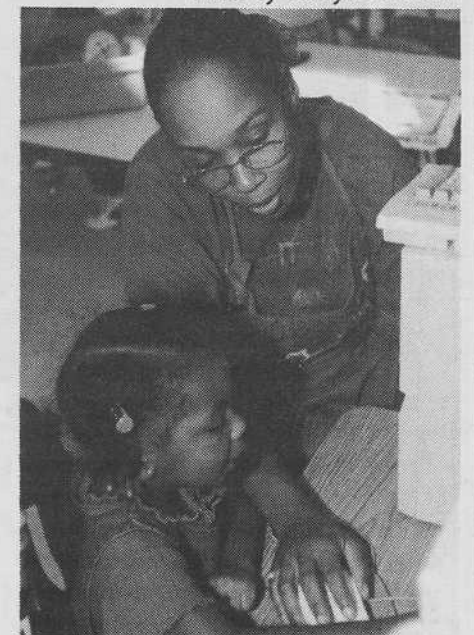
City and community leaders were equally generous at the opening of the educational center.

"This is the beginning, and it's the right beginning for many children," said Sharon Segerblom, director of the city's Neighborhood Services Department.

"We hope it will be a turning point for the children of West Las Vegas," said Veria Davis, president of the Economic Opportunity Board of Las Vegas. The group's Head Start program received rent-free space in the building.

Larry Mason, president of the CCSD board of trustees, spoke at the dedication.

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Center worker Deborah Johnson helps a student at the Alta Drive center.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice