

LAS VEGAS

Sentinel Voice

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Gun safety promoted

Citizens push child trigger locks

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

The 60-second public service announcement begins: "Look at this ... cool gun."

Two curious kids play with the gun. An argument ensues. Then a shot. A life has ended.

The staged radio PSA is part of national movement spearheaded by health professionals, community leaders and concerned citizens mandating all firearm sales include child safety locks and gun

owners take more responsibility in storing the weapons.

Children under 3 years old have enough strength to pull the trigger on most handguns, according to Dr. Beverly Neyland, M.D., president of the state Academy of Pediatrics.

That's a prescription for tragedy," Neyland said last Friday at a press conference at University Medical Center.

"The legislation is a good first step in providing safety for our children," she said.

Susan Pollack of Handgun Control, Inc. (See Safety, Page 16)



Dr. Beverly Neyland, president of the Nevada Academy of Pediatrics, endorses the measure.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

Group aims to pool resources

Businesspeople network at Friday breakfasts

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

When Harry Phelps needs his office cleaned, he relies on George Tillman's janitorial service.

When it's time for insurance counsel, he consults State Farm Agent Kathy Moore. And when he wants a good breakfast, Louis Conner, owner of Seven Seas Lounge, feeds him.

The Southern Nevada Business Network, an African-American business networking group, has been making similar connections for its members since 1996.

That, SNBN creator Warren Maxey said, was the idea.

"I created the SNBN to empower businesspeople who look like me," said Maxey,



Alfred Barnard, right, shares information about his communications business with public relations expert Modena Perry.

Photos by Savoy/LVS-Voice

also publisher of the Black Business Directory.

The SNBN meets every Friday morning at Seven Seas, 808 W. Lake Mead Blvd.

The SNBN allows African-American businesses to pool their resources, thus enhancing their economic viability, said Phelps, president of the Urban Chamber of Commerce. Phelps came from Detroit last year and met Maxey while doing an insert for Maxey's Black Business Directory.

Stella Utomi, an SNBN first-timer, joined the group to bolster her business. She found immediate results.

"I found someone who works in the leather industry, and that's what I was looking for," said Utomi, who owns African Heritage, a gift shop specializing in authentic African imports.

Conner, owner of Seven Seas Lounge, said African Americans often lack networking savvy, but that the SNBN is helping fill that void.

In addition to employers, the SNBN counts employees, doctors, lawyers, real estate brokers, bankers, insurance agents and myriad others as members, President Eddie Archie said. That diversity allows members to match services with their needs, Archie said.

Crystal Cole, senior loan officer at Profed Mortgage, joined to assist self-employed business owners to obtain home loans without using their tax returns. Cole, also the SNBN's membership director, said the group — presently at 36 members — grows each meeting.

The meetings begin with 7 a.m. breakfast, followed by the day's presentations and a networking session, Archie said.

To become a member, a person must visit at least three meetings and have their application reviewed and accepted, Archie said.

There are no membership dues and meetings cost \$7, Cole said.



TIGER WOODS

Tiger seizes Masters

Special to Sentinel-Voice

In dramatic and historic fashion, golfing phenomenon Tiger Woods won the 61st Masters tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club Sunday.

With thousands cheering him on along the fairways and millions more watching on television, the 21-year-old Woods — whose father is black and mother is Thai — became the youngest man and the first person of color to win the Masters championship.

Many observers heralded Woods victory as the beginning of his reign as the sport's pre-eminent player.

His record four-round score of 18-under-par 270 was one stroke better than Jack Nicklaus in 1965 and Raymond Floyd in 1976. His 12-stroke margin against runner-up Tom Kite is the

(See Tiger, Page 3)



SNBN members enjoy weekly gatherings.