

Pioneer entrepreneur succumbs to cancer

By Victor Ingram
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Naymon Webb, an entrepreneur and humanitarian who made Olga's Beauty and Barber Supply a staple in the black community, died Tuesday from complications relating to brain and lung cancer. He was 71.

A Fordyce, Ark.-native, Nayman Webb worked as an insurance salesman when he first arrived in Las Vegas in 1972 from California.

Longing to taste entrepreneurship, he and his wife Olga, who is also the store's namesake, started Olga's to provide the city's burgeoning black

community with quality beauty and barber supplies.

They put the business in the black community, Olga Webb said, to offer its patrons a convenient place to shop for personal care items.

Family and friends remember the World War II veteran as easy-going and hard working.

"His goal was for his business to succeed ... he didn't take business lightly," said Michelle Webb, his niece.

In her 11-years at the 300 W. Lake Mead Blvd. store, Michelle Webb said she never encountered any of the



NAYMON WEBB

horror stories people attribute to working for a relative.

"He treated his employees well and always thought about others," she said. "He always supported black people who wanted to have their own businesses."

Olga Webb shared her neice's fond memories, recalling a loving husband she said was devoted to the community and to people in general.

"He was a great guy," she said of Nayman Webb, who she wed 37 years ago. "I was very much in love with him, and he was very much in love with me. We were like one person."

She said the couple worked to keep the business in the black

community and that her husband participated in numerous church and community outreach activities.

Olga Webb said she and her husband had a special marital partnership that extended to the business.

"We ran it together," she said, referring to the store. She beamed when telling how customers, some who shopped at Olga's for more than 20 years, are still grateful for his vision.

Services will be held Thursday, Dec. 18, 1:00 p.m. at Palm Mortuary, 1600 S. Jones.

Black college fair educates students

By Nikki Credic
Special to Sentinel-Voice

The fourth annual Black College Fair was held last week at the West Las Vegas Library Theatre. Sponsored by the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, provided local Las Vegas students information about the importance of historical black colleges and universities, and how to enroll in them.

According to Michael Garret, black college fair coordinator, many students are unaware of how to apply for college and the other requirements to further their education. "A lot of students today do not know about applying for financial aid, and taking tests such as the SAT and ACT until their senior year," he said. "So our job here is to try to educate the students early on what they need to do

to prepare for college."

Students received a wealth of knowledge on application procedures, financial aid eligibility and deadlines, and answers to their personal concerns about college life.

The college representatives at the fair were helpful with these personal concerns. Zabadee Scott, a representative from Jackson State University, shared his black college experience.

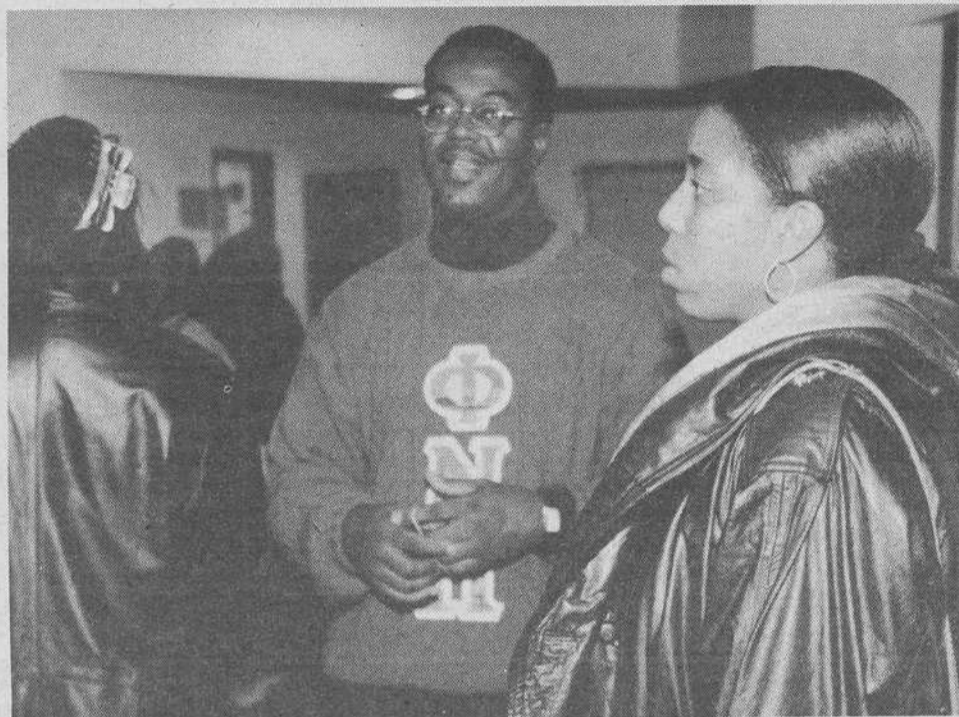
"I received a warm feeling when I first stepped on campus. Knowing that everyone was there for the same reason, with the same goal of furthering their education gave me a sense of togetherness."

Clark-Atlanta University representative, Aaron D. Campbell, shared this sense of "togetherness" also. "Coming from Las Vegas, you almost

have to go a black college to find out what's really going on in the world concerning African-Americans. I gained self awareness, learned to appreciate my people a lot more, and got to see black people taking care of business."

Recent Elderado High School graduate, Joe Barnes, who is now attending Fort Valley State University, explained that black college fairs like this one helped him with his college preparation.

"Before I came here I was really indecisive on where I should go: a historically black college or a predominately 'white' university. A lot of my high school professors told me I wouldn't receive an adequate education if I went to a black college, but coming to forums like this I learned that I could," Barnes said.



Michael Garret, coordinator of the recent black college fair at the West Las Vegas Library Theatre, counsels prospective black college students.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

West Las Vegas gets artsy makeover

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Professional, recreational and aspiring artists recently made West Las Vegas their canvas.

From Dec. 12-14, local artists, architecture and art students showcased the artistic flair during the West Las Vegas Charette.

Charette is French for "on the cart" and describes how drawings and other artistic interpretations from French students were collected in a push cart and taken away to be observed.

The event was sponsored by the West Las Vegas Neighborhood Executive Board and the City of Las Vegas Arts Commission. This year's theme: "A Vision for the 21st Century Through the

Arts," "Take Pride in the Westside." The artists competed in a poster contest for U.S. Savings Bonds.

"We tried to put together a group that will focus on public art proposals for the community that can help stimulate economic activity as well as bring out some of the historical facts of West Las Vegas," said Eric Strain, chairman of the commission about the collaboration with the West Las Vegas board.

Houston Conwill, a nationally acclaimed artist whose work sits in museums, libraries, airports and train stations shared his experiences and abilities.

"Art should be about celebrating, fostering, and mirroring the best we are and the values we hold dear,"

Conwill said.

Conwill, born and raised in Louisville, Ky., has been painting since 1973. He received his bachelor's degree in painting from Howard

University and began his master's degree studies in painting and sculpting at the University of Southern California. He now lives in (See Art, Page 15)

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