

NEWS CLIPS

NLV SAYS NO TO ILLEGAL DUMPING

In response to recent news coverage of the dumping of medical waste at U.S. Enviromed on Craig Road, North Las Vegas Mayor Michael Montandon has issued the following statement: "The City of North Las Vegas will not tolerate any illegal or improper dumping of waste within our city limits. The health and safety of our residents is our paramount concern. We will proactively and aggressively do everything we can legally do to protect our city." The mayor's response comes after four search warrants were served on U.S. Enviromed and a weekend of continuous excavation of a pit on the company's property filled with biomedical waste. The North Las Vegas Police Department is overseeing the removal of bloody rags and gowns, syringes, discarded sharps, glassware, plasticware and liquids.

AFRICA BILL PASSES IN U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

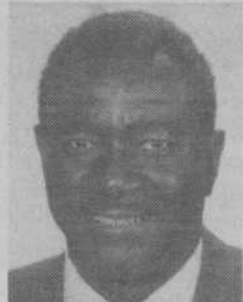
A bill which provides a framework for and funding to aid Africa in its economic development has been passed by a substantial margin in the U.S. House of Representatives. The African Growth and Opportunity Act, (H.R. 1432) which was co-authored by Congressman Charles Rangel, D-NY, would aid countries on the continent in infrastructure development and in reducing their debt. Said Rangel: "The plan has been welcomed ecstatically in Africa. In the U.S. it has deep, broad-based support among Black leaders and in the business community. In Congress, it has bi-partisan support. Sub-Saharan Africa," he continued, "is not the nightmare of war, famine and poverty portrayed in the media. Many of its 48 countries, populated by 600 million people, have undergone major political and economic changes. U.S. markets, in turn, are important for Africa and account for around 17 percent of its total exports. But the prospects for future trade and economic cooperation are promising, provided we and our African partners work together to implement sound public policies." That is the purpose of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. "As the world's largest and most technologically advanced economy, the U.S. can, and should, do more to contribute to Africa's economic development. But this is not a one-way street. By stimulating trade and growth in Africa, we will also increase economic opportunities and jobs here at home," Rangel said.

AMERICA'S BLACKS MOVING BACK SOUTH IN RECORD NUMBERS

Reversing a half-century exodus from the South, Blacks are returning to the region in record numbers, attracted by an improved economy and a more hospitable racial climate, a researcher says. During the first half of the 1990s, the south gained 368,800 Black residents, according to the study, while the northeast lost 233,600, the midwest 106,500 and the west 28,700. The analysis appeared in last month's edition of *Population Today*. "For the first time in any five-year period, the South saw net gains of Black migrants from the northeast, midwest and the west," said William H. Frey, a sociology professor at the University of Michigan and the report's author. "Black professionals and blue-collar workers, as well as Blacks who have retired, are reversing the decades of migration from the South by moving to the South's economically vibrant rural and urban areas," he said. While economics is an important reason for the migration, Frey said the racial climate in the South has also changed, making the region more attractive. He said that the Black migration from the South between 1910 and the late 1960s was largely the result of the South's hostile racial climate, coupled with the economic pull of northern cities.

RESULTS SHOW GAP BETWEEN ALABAMANS ON MATH, READING TESTS

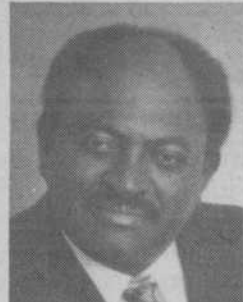
Black high school students lagging behind Whites in eighth-grade proficiency tests illustrate the gap on standardized exams between the races seen all through school, a state education official said. Two out of three White high school freshmen who took the required test to demonstrate competency in math and reading passed, compared to two out of five Black students, according to 1996-97 test results. The racial performance gap shows up on every standardized test offered by the state of Alabama all the way through the Scholastic Aptitude Test used to gain college admission, said Lew Fabrizio, director of accountability services for the state department of public instruction. "In homes higher on the socioeconomic scale, where one or both parents have been to college, there is usually more value placed on education than seems to be found in homes lower on the scale, and that's the root of the problem," Fabrizio said. Students begin taking the test, which is administered at least twice a year, at the end of eighth grade.



Bill McCloud
ATC/Vancom



Louis Richardson
Richardson Construction



Louis Connor
Carevan Services



De Lisa Macklin
Heritage Sisters



George Tillman
Tillman Janitorial

NMPC to recognize business excellence

By Deborah Kohen
Sentinel-Voice

The Nevada Minority Purchasing Council, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, will host its third annual Excellence Awards on Friday, March 27 at Caesars Palace.

The Excellence Awards program is designed to pay tribute to those corporations and minority business owners who have excelled in programs, products and services and to raise money for the organization.

KLAS TV-8 anchors Juana Hart and Polly Gonzales will serve as emcees. The event kicks off at 7 p.m. and is preceded by no-host cocktails at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 per person or \$750 per table, which is tax deductible. Please call (702) 894-4477 for reservations.

In an effort to ensure that all ethnic minorities are included,

nominees for the awards were submitted by the Latin Chamber of Commerce, the Asian-Pacific Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas Indian Center, the Urban Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Women Business Owners, Clark County and the Economic Opportunity Board's Micro Business Program. Each organization selected a corporation of the year and a minority business of the year.

This year's honorees include ATC/Vancom, corporation of the year and Richardson Construction, Inc., minority business of the year, the county's designates; Heritage Sisters, minority business of the year, nominated by the EOB Micro Business Program; Nevada State Bank, corporation of the year and

Carevan Services, minority business of the year, they were selected by the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

The National Association of Women Business Owners selected Lazer Graphix its corporation of the year and Computer Skills Institute its minority business of the year. The Latin Chamber of Commerce selected Household Bank as corporation of the year and The World Merchants Importers as minority business of the year, while the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and the Las Vegas Indian Center both tabbed Citibank-Nevada as corporation of the year and Arrowhead Technologies, Inc., as minority business of the year. Bechtel-Nevada was selected corporation of the year and Tillman Janitorial, minority business of the year by the Urban Chamber of Commerce.

The Nevada Minority Purchasing Council's Board of Directors selected the following award recipients: Arcata Associates, minority business of the year; BankWest of Nevada, corporation of the year; Patty Aguilar of Pioneer Citizens Bank, corporate person of the year; Noue Wallwork of Sign Resources, minority person of the year, Larry Woodrum, BankWest of Nevada, president of the year, and Caesars Palace as corporate contributor of the year.

The Nevada Minority Purchasing Council was founded for the sole purpose of increasing the purchase of goods and services between minority suppliers and the private and public sectors.

The NMPC, an affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, is a nonprofit corporation (See Awards, Page 13)

Ex-fed lends credence to MLK, Jr. conspiracy

Special to Sentinel-Voice

ATLANTA—Former FBI agent Donald Wilson, who impounded James Earl Ray's white Ford Mustang after civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. was slain in Memphis in 1968, says two slips of paper he kept bear names and figures that may bolster Ray's claim of a conspiracy, according to the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

The newspaper reported Monday that Wilson, who now lives in the Chicago area and has said he has the original documents stored in a vault there, contends he kept the material secret because he didn't trust his superiors. He showed photocopies to the newspaper Monday.

Also on Monday, he arrived at the Fulton County Courthouse to discuss the papers with District Attorney Paul Howard. He was accompanied by William Pepper, an attorney trying to win a trial for Ray.

Wilson said he did not pass the documents to his superiors in 1968 because he did not believe they were conducting a serious investigation and did not trust them. He said he decided last year to share them with King's relatives, who are supporting Ray's efforts to win a trial.

Wilson, then an agent with

the FBI office in Atlanta, was one of two agents who impounded Ray's car from an Atlanta housing project April 10, 1968, six days after King was assassinated at a Memphis hotel.

One of the papers he found had a list of names, locations and figures that appear to be dollar amounts, the *Journal-Constitution* said. At the bottom, the figure 450,000.00 is written along with a date and a word that appears to be Raul.

The other contains a telephone number and the name Raul, the newspaper said. The newspaper did not give any of the other names.

Ray, who pleaded guilty in 1969 but then recanted and has been seeking a trial ever since, has claimed he was set up by a shadowy gunman he knew only as Raoul. No independent evidence of Raoul's existence has ever been found.

In an odd twist, the newspaper said, the telephone number on one of the papers appeared to refer to Jack Ruby. The number is next to a capital J inside a circle.

A check of that telephone number in a 1963 Dallas directory indicates it was listed to Ruby and the Vegas Club, the *Journal-Constitution* said. Ruby was arrested in 1963 for killing Lee Harvey Oswald.

The newspaper reported


that Cartha DeLoach, who was assistant to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover in 1968 and now lives in Hilton Head, S.C., said he is not aware of Wilson's evidence.

William Pepper, Ray's lead attorney, said the evidence is being shared with Howard because it was recovered in

Fulton County. Howard said Andrew Young, the former Atlanta mayor and United Nations ambassador, asked him to review the papers.

"If it's something that might be of importance and value, I thought it was worth listening to," he said.

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