

LAS VEGAS

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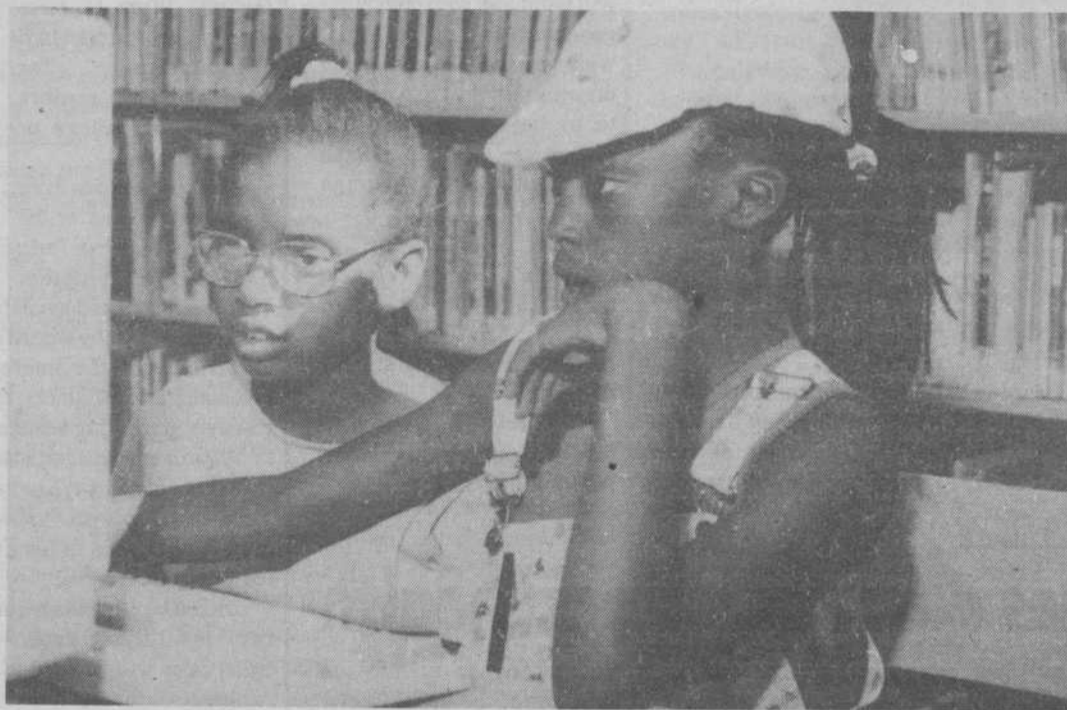
GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Summer Programs Abound

With the addition of computers at the West Las Vegas Library Vernicia Clay (right) and Samillia Griffin can surf the Internet during the summer. Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard



Valley rich with summer youth activities

By Deborah Kohen
Sentinel-Voice

With hordes of youth programs available through the city and county, the most troubling thing for parents should be finding the right mix to satisfy their excitement-seeking brood.

Libraries, programs offer food for the mind

The library system's well-equipped facilities boast capable staff and solid children's programming. Each county facility has a Young People's Library, a room devoted to literature from picture books to novels. The rooms have computers equipped with educational software, games like "Where in Space is Carmen Sandiego" and reference materials. Given the high demand for

computer use, library officials suggest reserving time.

The library system's summer reading program, "Library Kids from Top to Bottom," caters to readers up to age 18. Participants track the time they spend reading books of their choice. Prizes, awarded for reading in six-hour increments, include a grand prize trip to Sea World accompanied by a librarian and a television crew.

Special events and weekly "story times" are also held. Story times emphasize books and add films, crafts, guest speakers and artists to enhance the reading experience.

Padding the list of activities will be visits by author/illustrator Janet Stevens, puppeteer Roger Rankin, gardening expert Aggie Roberts and Ronald McDonald among other special guests.

Story times and special events are free, but some require pre-registration.

The North Las Vegas Library is also hosting a summer reading club, along with ongoing weekly events: story time, game day, movie night, special guest visits and craft time.

Several city and county community centers offer academic tutoring and classes in foreign languages, computing, practical science and trade skills. The North Las Vegas Neighborhood Recreation Center has classes on desert insects, carpentry and inventing.

The Lied Discovery Children's Museum offers a calendar of educational programming that focuses on young children but also covers teens, and Clark County hosts a one-week (See Youth, Page 12)

Demotions have county officials vexed

By John Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Five recently demoted Clark County officials say miscalculation and discrimination played a part in the decision to reassign them to lower-paying jobs.



GEORGE COTTON

County officials contend the moves were needed to make the human resources department work smoother.

Terry Lamuraglia was demoted to employee labor relations manager from his former post as director of Human

Resources. New director Beverly Glode requested the demotions. Glode was not available for comment.

Also on May 16, Ron Cameron was moved from director of the Occupational Development Center to manager of the Adult Development center manager; Felice Lipkint, from employee assistant manager to the employee assistant coordinator; George Cotton, from equal opportunity director to equal opportunity manager; Barbara King, from employee labor relations manager to principal human resources analyst;

King disputes the news coming from human resource brass saying her demotion was meant to lower the manager-to-employee ratio. She has filed a complaint with Glode and Cotton, saying politics figured in her demotion and that she is being penalized for her loyalty to former (See Cotton, Page 2)

Authorities finger three whites in black man's death

Special to Sentinel-Voice

JASPER, Texas — Authorities on Tuesday said three white men with suspected ties to the Ku Klux Klan chained a black hitchhiker to the back of a pickup truck and dragged him to death.

James Byrd Jr.'s head, neck and right arm were found about a mile from his mangled torso. A wrench with the name of one of the suspects on it was found near the body. Byrd had been dragged about two miles on a narrow, winding asphalt road.

"All evidence shows it will be racially motivated," Sheriff Billy Rowles said.

Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, Shawn Allen Berry and John William King, both 23, appeared in court, were charged with murder and were jailed without bail. It was not immediately known who the suspects' attorneys were.

Byrd, 49, had been walking home from a niece's bridal shower Saturday night and

apparently accepted a ride from the defendants. He was last seen riding in the back of the truck, police said. When he was found, he was so badly disfigured that investigators had to use fingerprints to identify him.

King and Brewer were covered with tattoos indicating white supremacist beliefs, and all three had spent time in prison, where they apparently had ties to the KKK and the Aryan Nation, the sheriff said.

The sheriff said it appeared that Byrd knew one of the defendants, but he rejected the notion that racist groups have members in the area.

Rowles said it appeared the three men had been drinking.

Jasper is a timber town of 7,800 people about 100 miles northeast of Houston. It is 55 miles north of Vidor, where a Klan faction protested a 1993 federal order to integrate an all-white public housing complex.

(See Murder, Page 3)



And the beat goes on...

Pounding out thundering rhythms inside Doolittle Park, (left to right) Earl Henry, Donavan Wilson and Tony Hines practice for upcoming summer performances.

Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard