

At-risk youth treated to free back-to-school fair

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Over 300 people poured out of Robert Taylor Elementary School to participate in a 'Back To School Fair' sponsored by Clark County Social Service.

"This is the first year we've done this at school," Barbara Grostik said who is the volunteer coordinator for Clark County Social Services. "We've been doing this for 10 years and found out we were duplicating other services' resources."

Robert Taylor School educates many at risk children who come from low income homes and take advantage

of the free lunch programs offered by the school district. Homeless shelters are where the fairs are usually held but that cuts out a great deal of families that can benefit from this program.

"This is a staff driven program with staff being fully committed to volunteering," Verlia Davis said who is the Director of Clark County Social Services. "It's (the fair) supported by the commissioners and we are happy to do it."

Employees of the Social Service donated time and money to give at-risk children free back packs and school supplies. Immunization shots, face paintings, ice cream floats, Star



Verlia Davis

Trek Federation Klingons, Safe Key, and D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance

Education) were all on hand to show students a good time.

"I think its great," Michelle Goodman said who is a mother of two. "The point that they (Social Services) would come out into the community and support the children."

"I feel really excited to be going back to school with a new back pack," 10 year old Jessica Lopez said. "I'm really having fun."

Lt. Governor Candidate Lorraine Hunt was there to meet and greet parents and children. She also brought the 'Haze Buster' car which is an environmental friendly car that runs on hydrogen enriched natural gas.

"It's important that children receive a proper upbringing to help them have more self-esteem and feel good about themselves and school," Lorraine Hunt said. "Education is the key to their future and it will help them build a legacy that will last the rest of their lives."

"Its great that the people went through all this trouble for us," 10 year old Alex Castor said. "I want to say thank you to everyone who helped us and thought about our school."

Next year Clark County Social Services plans to hold another fair in a school with a high population of at-risk children.

Parents' conference to address variety of school issues



Sherman Rutledge

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Did you know that the foundations of your children's ability to learn are laid down and hard-wired into their brains during infancy and the toddler years? "Parent Development," one of 20 workshop choices available at an upcoming parents' event, will help you learn how to be your child's most effective and influential teacher.

Cohosted by KCEP-FM

88.1 and the Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN), the second annual African-American Parents Conference will take place on Sept. 19 at CCSN's Cheyenne campus, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Titled "Parents Taking Charge of their Children's Academic Future," the conference will offer concerned parents of school-age children a variety of

empowering workshops, opportunities for networking, and an inspirational keynote speech.

The conference, which includes a continental breakfast in the morning and lunch at noon, is free to the public. Childcare, however, will not be provided and must be arranged by parents individually.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, the guest speaker, will be

addressing participants during lunch on the topic, "African Centered Parenting and the Issues of Education; Academic Excellence and Social Responsibility." Dr. Karenga is the founder of "KWANZAA, the Seven Principles" and chair of African American Studies at Long Beach University.

Some of the workshops deal with the school system—how to understand it, change it, work with it. Computer-aided

instruction, students with special needs, gang violence, media issues, racial issues and college preparation are some other workshop topics.

Conference producer Sherman Rutledge Jr., KCEP's general manager, became an education activist in the 1970's in California because he had a daughter whose health problems landed her in a facility for severely retarded (See Conference, Page 7)

HIV

(Continued from Page 1)
the infection rate.

Only among blacks did women have higher infection rates than men, whose rate was 3.2 per 1,000. Rates were nearly the same for white men and women, .8 per 1,000 and .7 per 1,000 respectively. Among Hispanics, the infection rate among men was more than twice that of women, 1.5 per 1,000 compared with .6 per 1,000.

Overall, two of every 1,000 youths studied tested positive for HIV. The infection rate among all women studied was 3 per 1,000, 50 percent higher than that for all men studied—2 per 1,000.

The Job Corps infection rates were twice as high as those reported by adolescent health clinics and eight times higher than rates for youths applying for military service.

Author studies alleged U.S. Army incident

By Ernest Herndon
McComb Enterprise Journal

McCOMB, Miss. (AP) — A new book by a McComb author accuses the U.S. Army of massacring some 1,200 black troops at Camp Van Dorn near Centreville in 1943.

"The Slaughter: An American Atrocity" culminates 13 years of investigation by author Carroll Case. The first part of the book is nonfiction; the second part

is fact-based fiction.

Research "convinced me of the following shocking fact: in the fall of 1943, at Camp Van Dorn, an Army base in southwestern Mississippi, over a thousand black soldiers from the 364th Infantry were slaughtered. The perpetrators were not local white racists, but the United States Army itself," Case writes in the opening to the book.

Case heard rumors of the

incident as a youngster.

"I heard the story first around the campfire in the Bogue Chitto swamps," he said.

In 1985 the story became more than rumor when a co-worker told Case he'd participated in the slaughter of 1,200 troops. "He was not one to brag in any way," said Case of the man, now deceased. Case teamed up with this reporter to look into the story along with

the legacy of the camp. The result was a two-page spread in the Aug. 25, 1985, *Enterprise-Journal*.

A Jackson television station followed up on the story as well. The *Enterprise-Journal* article cited newspaper and textbook accounts that the 364th had a reputation for violence, including a riot when it was stationed in Arizona.

Army officials sent the (See Army, Page 14)

West Las Vegas Arts Center Community Jazz Festival

September 12, 1998 • 11:00 a.m.

West Las Vegas Arts Center Amphitheater
947 W. Lake Mead Blvd.

Free to the Public

Bring a lunch and your dancing shoes ... you'll enjoy a great afternoon of music performed by Reggae artist Rohn Shead and Rick Arroyo and The Latin Percussion Ensemble. The place is the West Las Vegas Arts Center Amphitheater, the time is 11:00 a.m. Be there and think "cool" man!

For more information contact:
Denise Wilson, 229-4800

Latin Firm of Smith & Williams

A
T
T
O
R
N
E
Y

A
T
L
A
W



TIMOTHY C. WILLIAMS

Timothy Williams is a member of the Nevada & Illinois State Bar, practicing primarily in personal injury cases.

COMBINED 27 YEARS
OF LEGAL EXPERIENCE

EMPHASIS ON PERSONAL INJURY CASES

- Automobile Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Slips & Falls
- Wrongful Death
- Dog Bites
- Pedestrian & Other Bodily Injuries
- Medical Malpractice

892-0000

1785 E. Sahara Ave. Ste. 337
Las Vegas, Nevada

Neither the State Bar of Nevada nor any agency of the State Bar has certified any lawyer identified here as a specialist or expert. Anyone considering a lawyer should independently investigate the lawyers credentials and ability.