

# Accurate census vital to minorities, children

**John T. Stephens III**  
*Sentinel-Voice*

The upcoming Census is vital to African-Americans, 4.4 million of whom were missed in the 1990 tabulation of U.S. residents and those in Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Census Bureau will send out more than 120 million questionnaires and hire at least 600,000 people for the decennial count.

The census determines the distribution of federal dollars for schools, transportation, health care, welfare, affects the boundaries of political districts and logs personal

data such as education, income, marital status, and other characterizing information.

"Every governor, mayor and county executive should be gravely concerned," said Florida Republican Congressman Dan Miller. "The Census Bureau is peddling snake oil and they're headed for your neighborhood."

Miller is concerned that Supreme Court-backed use of sampling—using a limited count and estimating population totals by a scientific method—is an inaccurate way to determine the federal government's annual \$200 billion apportionment.

The scientific community and the National Academy of Sciences would assist in measuring samples.

"To provide a legal, Supreme Court-mandated number to the Congress and then concoct another number for the states is a recipe for disaster," Miller said. "This irresponsible approach will only serve to confuse and confound the American people while hiding under a thinly veiled shield of so called accuracy."

Miller introduced H.R.472 to lengthen the local review of the census from two weeks to nine weeks. He said this would give local municipalities more time to review counts and ensure the

accuracy of census figures in case of sampling error.

Opponents of the measure say it would bottle up precious time needed to finish the 2000 Census by April 1, 2001. The extension offered to local governments would disrupt calculations and lead to a miscount that could further affect minorities and the poor.

"The Census of 2000 will be vitally important in shaping the future of southern Nevada. Planning and funding for the needs of every southern Nevadan depend on a full and accurate Census," said Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, D-Nev. "Because we are the fastest growing area of the country, and

because the population patterns in this valley change so dramatically year by year, we are uniquely at risk to a damaging undercount."

Nevada's population grew 4.1 percent between 1997 and 1998 and Las Vegas grew 41 percent from 1990 to 1996, according to Census Bureau data. The 1990 census undercounted Nevada by an estimated 29,000 people, amounting to \$20 million in lost federal funds.

Approximately 11,439 children were missed along with more than 6,900 African-Americans. Hispanic and Native Americans weighed were missed 5.6 percent and 5 percent, respectively. Blacks

led the pack, with 8.1 percent not getting counted.

Minorities and children are at the greatest risk of an undercount. Programs and services geared toward them could be sacrificed if population figures aren't significant enough.

"Unfortunately, the Census has become a political issue. Leaders of the Republican Party oppose the use of modern statistical methods," Berkley said.

"The undercount affects minorities, children, and the disadvantaged far more than the general population. We have a scientific means at hand to avoid the chronic undercount of persons of color."

## Singer's son dies

*Special to Sentinel-Voice*

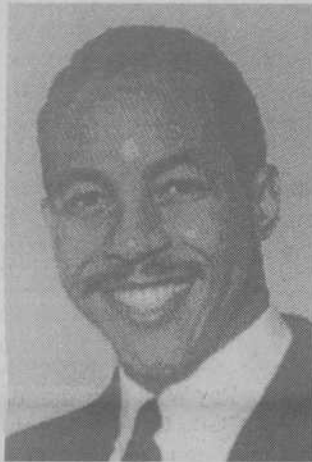
The 36-year-old son and manager of singer Gladys Knight, James "Jimmy" Newman, died Saturday at his home in Las Vegas.

As one of four Knight-related companies located in Southern Nevada, Newman Management Inc. was in charge of managing Knight's career. The official cause of death of the 22-year resident is pending.

"Many Different Roads," his mother's recent gospel album, along with other gospel artists were supported by Many Roads, a specialty record label Newman helped his mother launch.

Named after Knight's late first husband, Newman was born on Aug. 13, 1962 as the singer's eldest child. He is survived by his wife, Michelene; daughters Nastasia and Gabrielle; and sons, Rishawn, Stefan and Sterling, all of Las Vegas; mother Gladys Knight of Henderson; stepfather, Barry Hankerson of California; sister, Kenya Jackson of Henderson; and brothers Shanga Hankerson and Jimmy Jordan, both of Atlanta, and Jomo Hankerson of New York City.

Services start at 11 a.m. Thursday at Red Rock Stake Center, 221 Lorenzi St. Burial will follow at Palm Valley View Memorial Park. Memorial donations can be made to the Newman Children Education Fund at Wells Fargo Bank, Account No. 6835665183.



JAMES NEWMAN

## Goodman promises to fulfill lofty goals

**John T. Stephens III**  
*Sentinel-Voice*

Mayor Oscar Goodman says he's having a good time in his first weeks on the job despite long meetings and being flooded out of his office due to last week's 100-year storms.

Goodman presided over Monday's swearing in of the City Council's first African-American woman representative Lynette Boggs-McDonald, has already abstained from voting on several matters, says he will promote communication between local municipalities, seek to implement impact fees to raise funds for blighted areas and work to ensure the redrawing of wards to add two council seats goes

smoothly.

"I'm a working mayor," said Goodman, boasting that he goes to work at 7 a.m. and often works until 9:30 p.m. "That's how government is supposed to work."

Goodman said he's been interacting with Boulder City and North Las Vegas officials on efforts at regional coalition-building.

Goodman said he's urged Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, D-Nev., to stomp for more federal funds for the city. He also said he is planning to be in Washington D.C., this week to meet with city lobbyists.

"I want to be a special mayor," said Goodman, who is especially proud of the

city's Neighborhood Services Department.

He praised the department's Rapid Response team, a 25-member team that handles neighborhood issues such as graffiti, unattended cars, trash removal and disposal.

Goodman said he wants to build an incubator-type building downtown for residents wanting to live north of the strip. He's unsure if plans for the loft-like cubicles would call for affordable housing or upscale housing.

Goodman said he's consulted the city's legal department about imposing impact fees on developers, a proposal he says has been received positively by developers.

"If you have money you can do everything," he said. "If you don't have money you can't do anything."

To learn more from his constituents, Goodman's slated the last Friday of each month as time for informal talks. The meetings will be held from 9 a.m. to noon.

Maps of the new city council wards' proposals will be available for public viewing and scrutiny 30 to 60 days from now.

Review-Journal columnist and library board trustee Barbara Robinson has been appointed to sit on a committee designed to voice the concerns of African-Americans.

Those interested can call the mayor at 229-6241.

### NOTICE

The Regional Transportation Commission of Clark County (RTC), Nevada, has revised its *Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program* in accordance with Title 49 of the code of federal regulations, Parts 23 and 26. This program is designed to ensure that no person benefiting from U.S. Department of Transportation Financial Assistance shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any contract on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or socio-economic background; and that certified DBE's shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts funded in whole or in part by the United States Department of Transportation. This program is available for inspection, comments, and informational purposes at: 600 South Grand Central Pkwy, Suite 350, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106-4512 from 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM. Monday through Friday.



## Galaxy Glenn Birthday Party

Friday, July 23rd  
Motown Cafe

(New York, New York — Tropicana & LV Blvd.)

Special Guest Appearances

Music by D.J. Benzo

Hosted by L.C. "The Love Captain"

Doors open 11:00 p.m. • Dress Code — Classy  
Best Dressed Ladies Contest

## Davis & Sons, Inc.

Door, Trim & Hardware

Remodel Specials

French Doors, Entry Doors, Base & Case. Everything in Stock 30% Discount.

Senior Discount Mon. - Fri. 8am to 5pm Saturday 8am to 12 noon

383-9088



EARL SANDERS  
Vice President