

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

The Urban Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend our June Luncheon with special guest speaker Cornelius Eason, President of Priority Staffing. The topic is "From an Entrepreneur's Point of View." The program is from 11:30 am - 1 pm at the Main Street Station, 200 N. Main (Pullman Grille). Prices \$20 members/\$22 non-members/\$25 all walk-ins. RSVP by Tues., June 20 (All RSVP's will be billed). Send payments to Urban Chamber of Commerce, 1048 W. Owens Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

Clark County Parks and Recreation's long running free concert series, "Jazz in the Park," ends June 24 with the Ernie Watts Quartet at the Clark County Government Center Amphitheater, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway. Pre-show activities, including nightly drawings and giveaways, start at 7:30 pm. The music starts at 8 pm. For more information, call Clark County Parks and Recreation, 455-8200.... The WorldFolk Foundation will celebrate its 4th anniversary with a birthday party at The Enigma Garden Cafe, 918 S. Fourth Street. The festivities, which will include music, poetry and refreshments, will begin at 8 pm and is free and open to the public. For more info, call WorldFolk at 220-6043 or e-mail us at worldfolk@aol.com

MONDAY, JUNE 26

The Community Baptist Church, located at 245 E. Foster, would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to their Annual Vacation Bible School, beginning Monday, June 26 through Friday, June 30 from 7 pm - 9 pm. There will be a variety of activities to participate in as well as Bible Study classes for all ages. So come one, come all to hear and learn the Word of God. Your presence is important to us and we look forward to seeing you.... The Southwest Region of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., will be meeting here in Las Vegas, June 26-30. Events for this Convention (excluding the Musical) will be held at the Alexis Park Hotel Resort located at 375 East Harmon. The schedule of events include congress classes, preaching/singing, a president's banquet and commencement address. The Public is invited to attend. For Registration Fee, Banquet information or any questions you may have, please contact: Chairpersons Ben Winslow (649-3282) or Eva McGough (453-5583).

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

"One Diva and Sixteen Dudes," the premiere group exhibition of artwork from renowned artist Annie Lee and sixteen of her nationally recognized colleagues, opens June 30 at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 821 Las Vegas Boulevard North. The public is invited to meet the artists during a free reception from 6-9 pm. All of the artists will have prints available for purchase during the reception and on July 1 from 11 am - 4 pm. The show runs through August 28; for more info call 229-6074.

ONGOING

The Professional Black Women's Alliance, general membership meetings 10 am the second Saturday of the month. H & H Barbeque Restaurant, 910 N. Martin L. King Blvd. Call Lillian McMorris, president, to answer your questions at 631-0000, fax 313-5255 or email mslill@aol.com... The Community College of Southern Nevada is accepting applications for the third annual Summer Jazz Combo Camp. The camp runs June 25-30 on the Cheyenne Campus. Training sessions are open to instrumentalist and vocalists of all ages and skill levels. Call the Fine Arts department at 651-4006... The Cultural and Community Affairs Division of the City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services presents "Community Roots Art Display." Eight local artist, Cochise Couyette, Albert Fennell, Joseph House, Frank James, Randy Proby, Gene Redden, Gwen Walker and Michael Wiggins will display two and three-dimensional works. Various mediums including sculpture, painting, miniatures, collages and doll collections can be seen through June 17th. The West Las Vegas Arts Center, 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd. For more details call the center at 229-4800... Left of Center Art Gallery, in North Las Vegas, has a new exhibition "Southern Exposure" on display through June 23. Local photographer Kenn Ruffin exhibits a collection of photographic expressions based on life in the rural south and southwest. The gallery is located at 2207 W. Gowan Rd. Call 647-7378 for additional information... Nevada Partners is offering free computer and Internet classes. Daily classes use the latest Microsoft Word and Excel applications. Evening classes offer Internet training that focuses on general usage, opening an Internet account, and designing a Web Page. For more info, call 399-5627... The Urban Chamber of Commerce hosts a business luncheon the fourth Friday of each month from 11:30AM-1PM at the Main Street Station. For more information please call (702) 648-6222.... The Cultural and Community Affairs Division of the City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services and the Las Vegas Civic Ballet Association are offering afternoon ballet, tap and jazz classes at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 821 Las Vegas Boulevard North. Classes include pointe for intermediate and advanced students, beginning and intermediate ballet, beginning tap, and beginning and intermediate jazz. Classes are ongoing; registration is \$25 per month. For further details, call 229-2321.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice accepts Community Billboard announcements for non-profit and church organizations. Send notices: 900 E. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89104 or fax to (702) 380-8102.

Hate Crimes

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the media in a positive manner. "I find in media that there are virtually no positive white male role models for our young boys to emulate," he told the audience. "Thus we have a crisis in white culture."

Later, a black man in the audience addressed Waters, saying: "You, sir, I think are in denial if you believe white males are not a privileged class. I've experienced (racism) myself, in this county. What we need to get from you is for you to really get down, deep and dirty, and do something that will make an impact." The comment received the loudest applause given during that session.

Another panelist, Fernando Romero of Hispanics in Politics, raised another issue, asking rhetorically, "Is racial profiling a hate crime?" Romero described moving to Las Vegas from Texas in 1967 and finding racism "very much alive."

In interviews after the session, Romero and Las Vegas NAACP branch president Gene Collins and another panelist, were asked about hate crimes in Southern Nevada.

Birmingham

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energy and moral force was putting within reach of Negro children.

Some whites embraced that vision of the future.

But the bombers, clutching at their ridiculous notions of white superiority and black inferiority, couldn't stand to contemplate a future in which they'd have to share America with these children.

And so, they gave up the last shred of their own dignity and, becoming something less than human, surrendered completely to evil.

"I don't know if it's a hotbed," Romero said. "I would say, unfortunately, that (racist activity) is very stable. The problem is that makes it bad because the community is increasing in population, so obviously by the mere numbers I guess you could say it's increasing."

"If you are a person who hates African-Americans and you lived in California and moved to Nevada, your perspective's not going to change," Collins said. "You're going to bring that dirty laundry with you when you come to Nevada. Hate crime legislation is needed not only in Las Vegas but throughout the United States. Why? Because racism is on the rise."

He also had a strong reaction to Waters' earlier remarks. "This morning, the gentleman said that white males are not getting their just due, and that is absurd when a person can say a white male is not having the same rights as everybody else," Collins said. "He has opportunity, and that is denied everybody else. White males have opportunity."

"We've come a long way in the last 15 years in ad-

ressing these issues simply by the use of dialogue," Water said.

Weinstein was asked if increased efforts to expose, ostracize, fine, prosecute and imprison racists might be a more effective means of combating hate crimes.

"It's a very tough empirical question," he said. "I agree that sort of getting together, holding hands and singing 'kumbaya' doesn't get you to where we need to go. This conference seems to be focused upon the Skinheads — the really sort of hard-core racists — and the question is whether that's the big problem in society. That is a problem. But I tend to agree with you, that the bigger problem is the more subtle racism—the racism in the board room, the subtle racism that keeps groups down."

"The civil rights movement established a certain consciousness that racism is wrong, but it's sort of paper-thin," he said. "Deep in the hearts of most people I'm not sure if they really believe in racial equality. That's exactly the next step that has to happen, that when there're no people of color around and the white folks are sitting

around in the board room telling racist jokes, you need to say: 'That's unacceptable, you shouldn't be in this position of power, Mr. Whatever-your-name-is.'"

Weinstein conceded, however, that such nobility requires a level of courage he thinks most Americans do not possess.

"Almost everybody agrees that beating somebody up because they're black or Jewish or gay (is wrong)," he said. "I agree with you that we need more consciousness-raising about the subtle forms."

"The community has to rise up when we see something wrong. The bystander can be, in some ways, just as bad as the malfeasor. We all have a moral responsibility, particularly when no one's watching."

"The legal system can only do so much in eliminating racism," he said. "Ultimately, it's people's hearts and minds that have to be changed. One of the best ways to do that is taking responsibility and standing up with some courage, and often times it's hard because you're not going to be popular. But it's that kind of courage that's needed to get us anywhere."

Rainbow

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infected.

In fact, about a half of our residents are people of color and about a one-third are children."

"Golden-Rainbow doesn't discriminate just as AIDS doesn't discriminate," president Lee Plotkin said.

"We're here to meet the basic needs of anyone dealing with AIDS — to give them some measure of dignity."

Those interested in more information on Golden Rainbow can call 384-2899 or visit the Web site at www.Goldenrainbow.org.

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