

# Juneteenth celebration to raise funds for academy

*Sentinel-Voice*

The Juneteenth Committee is preparing to host its first annual Las Vegas Juneteenth Festival at the Sammy Davis, Jr. Festival Plaza, 720 Twin Lakes Drive, in Lorenzi Park. Food, vendors, recreation and live musical entertainment will make for an outstanding celebration of a national African-American holiday.

"We (African-Americans) have a sense of blending in," said Diane Hughes, coordinator of the festival and president of the Anthony L. Pollard Foundation. "The more we teach other cultures about our culture...it makes things even."

Juneteenth is a celebration that marks the end of slavery in the U.S. On June 19, 1865, union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger marched into Galveston, Texas with news of the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed all slaves.

African-American freedom, education, economic empowerment, and achievement are commemorated in the observance of Juneteenth.

Tickets to attend the festival on June 10 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Admission for kids ages

3 and under will be free.

The Blues Schoolhouse Band of the International House of Blues Foundation will be on hand to provide live hometown blues for partygoers.

Proceeds from the event will be used for the creation of The Academy of African-American Studies in West Las Vegas, which will offer supplemental educational opportunities to disadvantaged youth in the community.

"It will only teach African-American history- that is the purpose of the academy," Hughes said. "A lot of African-American history is not being taught (in the schools)...it's not being taught everyday of the week. Our children need to know."

The Juneteenth Committee is an extension of the Anthony L. Pollard Foundation, a tax-exempt charitable organization. The foundation's primary goal is to enrich the lives of disadvantage children by providing educational assistance and opportunities that would otherwise not be available. It has awarded numerous college scholarships since 1990 for academics, community service, and visual and performing arts through its Rainbow Dreams Scholarship Program.

## Local black women featured in book

*John T. Stephens III*

*Sentinel-Voice*

A new release will be celebrated at a luncheon to acknowledge the first book published by and about Nevada's Black women. "From The Kitchen to The Board Room, Nevada's Black Women" is a collection of biographies, recipes and histories of female African-American Nevadans.

"Preserving the history of our Nevada black women ... we found it fitting to honor (them)," said Gwen Walker, founder of Nevada's only African-American museum, "women who have made considerable contributions to the community."

A year-and-a-half in production, the book is supposed to be the first edition in a

series of other publications to follow honoring Nevada's black women.

"You don't have to be a degreed person or an executive" to be included in the series, said Walker.

"You have to be strong ... influence people ... someone being touched by you being in their life. Our women have been strong and invincible."

Some of the women to be published in the first edition are: Lynnette Sawyer, Deborah Jackson, Las Vegas City Councilwoman Lynette Boggs-McDonald, Geena Cunningham, Terri Elston and University Regent Linda Howard.

"Sky's the limit," Walker said of the first installment of many such publications to come out annually between

the months of March and May.

There is even talk of producing a series for distinguished black men in Nevada.

Sponsored by the Walker African-American Museum & Research Center and Imani Investments, the event will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Palace Station Hotel, 2411 W. Sahara Ave.

The book is touted as a historical publication rich in biographies and with pictures of over 60 African-American women of Nevada.

Ticket prices for the luncheon are \$30 without a book or \$40 with a copy of the publication. The book sells for \$9.95.

For more information, call 647-2242 or 649-2238.

## Winfrey, Angelou together at forum

BOSTON (AP) — Talk show host Oprah Winfrey and poet Maya Angelou, two longtime friends who share their most private thoughts with one another, are sharing some of their shared views with the public.

"Usually, it's just you and me at the kitchen table, chicken with a little gravy. Now there's an audience," Winfrey said to Angelou as they appeared together Saturday at Simmons College's 22nd Annual Graduate School of Management Leadership Conference.

The women discussed the meaning of mentorship, how

friends help one another and how courage helps one forge a path through life.

"I think that we are mentors - all of us, whether we know it or not," Angelou said.

## Mummy

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pion King rests in a stone sarcophagus, poised, ready to kill again, if disturbed. But between curious Egyptologists and greedy pyramid poachers, it isn't long before the Scorpion King, with powers even beyond those of Imhotep, is back in business.

Frequent comic relief comes courtesy of Jonathan (Mr. Hannah), Evelyn's emasculated brother's tongue-in-cheek asides and cowardly Izzy's (Shaun Parkes) fear of his own shadow. Get past those stereotypes and you'll enjoy a hair-raising, rollercoaster ride to Hell and back.

Excellent (3.5 stars) Rated PG-13 for frightening monsters, disgusting creatures, nightmarish predicaments and an assortment of combat.

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