

Gala awards banquet benefits scholarships

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

A dinner and awards banquet to raise money for college scholarships will name an honoree, feature a nationally renowned TV commentator and feature the readings of a 19th century abolitionist. The Frederick Douglass Educational Fund 8th Annual Gala Dinner & Award Banquet is slated for next Thursday, Oct. 25, at 6 p.m. in the Venetian Ballroom at the Venetian Casino Resort, 3355 S. Las Vegas Blvd.

"Provide scholarships for needy students and go beyond that," said Dr. William H. "Bob" Bailey, chairman of the educational fund. "There are not scholarships to cover books...for third and fourth year (college) students...if they can show a need."

The event is the primary fund raiser for the Douglass scholarship fund, which was established in 1994.

"Frederick Douglas was the pre-cursor of Martin Luther King, Jr.," Dr. Bailey said of the abolitionist, journalist and author, who escaped slavery at the age of 21 and became a U.S. Ambassador after the Civil War. "He stood for self-sufficiency, education, and patriotism, he was very strong on patri-



LILLIAN McMORRIS

tism. A fantastic man that fought the system."

More than 20 students have received monies for college to help with tuition over the years, and funding has also been made available for elementary school tutorial programs.

"It's important to provide assistance for those students who have fallen behind," Dr. Bailey said.

A donation was given to the West Las Vegas Library to create a comprehensive collection of the works and accomplishments of Frederick Douglass made available to the public. The African-American targeted scholarship fund sent one UNLV student to Milan, Italy for special vocal tutoring.

KVVU-TV, FOX 5. Public Affairs Director Lillian

McMorris will be the banquet honoree for her commitment to the community.

"It's something that I've never expected...I just do what I do because it's the right thing," said McMorris, host of "A.M. Southern Nevada." "I like to give back to the community. I'm honored to receive this recognition, however, there is much more work yet to be done."

TV commentator, writer, educator and community volunteer Tony Brown of "Tony Brown's Journal" will be the keynote speaker for the event. His show was a series created in 1968, then called "Black Journal."

The show is hyped as a media source book of information on history, culture and lifestyle for some 34,658,000 African-Americans nationwide. In the past 30 years, Brown has hosted more than 1,000 programs, with celebrities such as Arthur Ashe, Colin Powell, Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis, Jr., Richard Pryor, Rev. Jesse Jackson and others as guests on his show.

Actor Zakes Mokae, Tony Award winner and actor in more than 100 movies, will read excerpts of Douglass' speeches.

For ticket prices and more information, call 386-2612.

Bodies of black women found in East St. Louis

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill. (AP) - Two women were found slain one day apart, bringing to eight the number of black women whose bodies were found here in the past two years.

Police said the two most recent killings appear to be unrelated to each other or to the other six slayings. "There is no connection that we see," detective Sgt. James Mister said last week.

The body of Lolina Collins, 41, of Rock Hill, Mo., was found in weeds near a park Sunday. An autopsy showed she had been strangled. Her body, clad only in a bra, was found with a trash bag over the ankles and a second trash bag over her arms.

The mother of three had worked at a state hospital until April, and was planning to become an elementary school teacher, said her husband, Tom.

Police also identified the body Brenda R. Beasley, 33, of St. Louis. A motorist found her nude body lying by a fire hydrant Monday. The cause of death was not immediately determined.

The mother of four worked full-time at a fast food restaurant. The bodies of six other black women have been found in the same general area in East St. Louis since November 1999. Most were in areas frequented by prostitutes and drug users.

Futch

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"Papa Smurf."

His first champion was welterweight Don Jordan in 1958 and Futch last worked the corner when light heavyweight Montell Griffin won the World Boxing Council title in March of 1997 on the disqualification of Roy Jones.

Other champions trained by Futch included light heavyweight Bob Foster, junior middleweight Mike McCallum, lightweight Alexis Arguello and welterweight Marlon Starling.

As amateurs working out in the same Detroit gyms in the early 1930s, Futch sparred with Louis, who went on to become one of the greatest heavyweight champions.

Futch never turned professional, instead becoming a trainer and one of the sport's

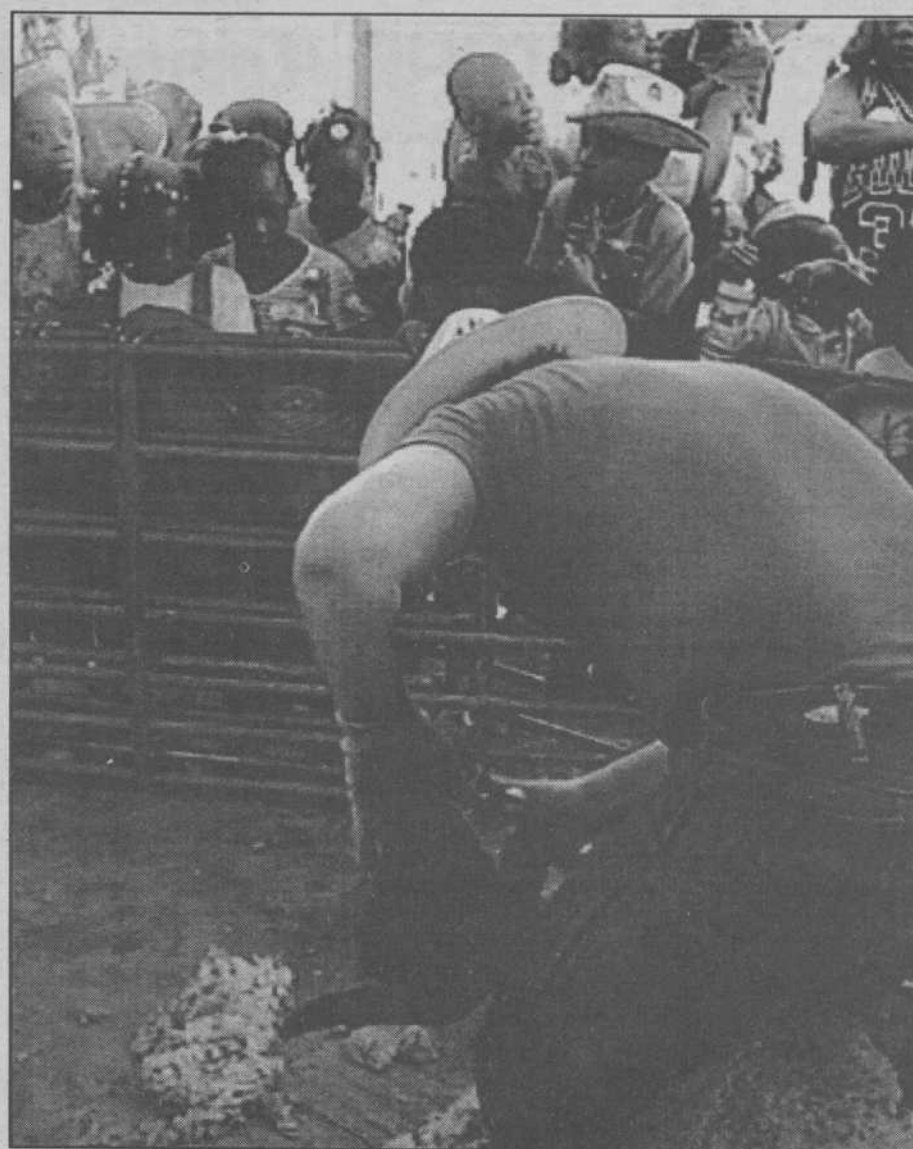
most revered teachers of young talent.

He helped hand Muhammad Ali his first two defeats while working with Frazier and Ken Norton but received more notoriety in defeat in the so-called "Thrilla in Manila" — the third and last epic battle between Frazier and Ali.

After the 14th round of the brutal bout, Futch refused to allow Frazier to go out for the final round against protests from "Smokin' Joe" because both of his fighter's eyes were swollen nearly shut.

"I thought, 'He's a good father and I want him to see his kids grow up,'" Futch recalled.

The Boxing Writers Association of America named Futch its Manager of the Year in 1975 and Trainer of the Year in 1991 and 1992. He is survived by his wife Eva.



HOG WILD

Photo special to Sentinel-Voice photo from Ed Kanet
H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary pupils watch a sheep-shearing exhibition during the recent Farm Days at Horseman's Park in Las Vegas.



THE URBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

INVITES YOU TO A TOWN HALL MEETING

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

To discuss the economic development that is going on in the ENTERPRISE ZONE in West Las Vegas, such as the location of the new site to house the URBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE and how it can impact your neighborhood and the value of your property. This informational meeting will present the public with all the details regarding the proposed project. Spanish interpreters will be available, if needed.

WHEN AND WHERE:

October 20, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

WEST LAS VEGAS LIBRARY

951 W. Lake Mead Blvd. (east of Martin Luther King Jr.)
Las Vegas, Nevada

★★★★★

October 24, 2001 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1030 N. "J" St. (near Martin Luther King & Washington)
Las Vegas, Nevada

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND:

Because what ever happens in your neighborhood (good or bad), impacts the value of your property. **Your opinion counts and it is important to us;** we will make it as easy as possible for you to provide us with your input and direction.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact: Louis Overstreet (702) 648-6222
or Marlene Monteolivo (702) 669-9593.

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