

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Help of Southern Nevada to host Second Annual Tea, Trends & Tranquility at the Four Seasons Hotel at 2:00 p.m. For more info call Jane Jensen 369-4357 or Terri Maruca-737-3100.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

The Junior League of Las Vegas is hosting their Fifth Annual Jingle Bell Jog at the Sunset Station Hotel and Casino in Henderson, NV. For more info please call the Junior League at 822-6353.... **The Aids Interfaith Ministries** will hold a candlelight vigil in honor of World Aids Day. It will be held at the Metropolitan Community Church, 1140 Almond Tree Lane, at 7 p.m. For more information contact Pat Manning, First Congregational Church at 642-2220 or Lionel Starkes, Clark County Health District at 942-9274.... **Barnes & Noble** will hold a new African-American reading group. This month's choice is Q: the Autobiography of Quincy Jones. It will be held at the Barnes & noble in Henderson at 11 am.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Nevada Minority Purchasing Council will hold its December Luncheon, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Sam's Town Hotel And Gambling Hall Virginia City Room, which will honor the council's 2001 supplier of the year. Admission will be \$23.00 for members and \$26.00 for non-members. To R.S.V.P. call 894-4477 or fax 894-9474.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Las Vegas All-Star High School Jazz Band presents its first concert of the season at The Reed Whipple Cultural Center at 2 pm. Admission is free. Call 229-6211 for info. This event is sponsored by the Dept. of Leisure Services Cultural and Community Affairs. They are also hosting a two-hour class at The Reed Whipple Cultural Center entitled **Understanding Kwanza** from 11am-1pm or on Tuesday, December 11 from 7pm-9pm.... **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, Theta Theta Omega Chapter & Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc, Kappa Xi Chapter** are holding their 3rd annual Money Matters Workshop from 10am-1pm at Community College of Southern Nevada, West Charleston Campus. This event is free and open to the public.... **Left of Center Art Gallery and Studio** will hold an artist's demonstration by Jorge Arcos on his exhibit "Faces of Mexico: Exploring Traditions" 12 noon - 2 pm.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

Left of Center Art Gallery and Studio will hold an Open Reception for Jorge Arcos's art exhibit, "Faces of Mexico; Exploring Tradition." It will last from 1- 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

The International Association Of Business Communicators will hold a Luncheon at the Las Vegas Country Club featuring Lynn Garlock, president and COO of Catch a Rising Star and a guest performance by one of the comedy club's comedians at 11:30 a.m. \$23 for members and students; \$28 for guests; and walk-ins will be charged an additional fee of \$5. Please R.S.V.P. @391-5517 or via email to mcaleer@ccmail.nevada.edu by Dec. 12.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Mountaintop Faith Ministries invite the community to a special Christmas service which will be held in their sanctuary at 6 p.m. entitled "Every Knee Shall Bow." For info call 367-1636.

ONGOING

The Reed Whipple Cultural Center will feature The Riches of Family: An American Journey from Slavery to Prosperity, the works of Rick Hyman, through February 23... **Left of Center Art Gallery and Studio** will hold an art exhibit by local artist Jorge Arcos entitled "Faces of Mexico." Over 30 oil and watercolor works depicting the rich and colorful Mexican culture. It will run from December 9 until February 15... **The Southern Nevada Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America Inc.** meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month inside the Sunrise Hospital doctors' conference room, 3187 S. Maryland Parkway, from 7-9p.m. Participants will discuss a variety of subjects about lupus in an effort to educate and support lupus sufferers. Call 566-1425 for additional details... **The West Las Vegas Arts Center**, 947 West Lake Mead Blvd., invites the community members to share the history, traditions and customs during the monthly "Voices of the African Diaspora," at 6p.m. The host will be Hasani Kefing Palacio. Participants are encouraged to participate in a discussion of pertinent, contemporary issues experienced by African Americans. "Voices of the African Diaspora" is a free presentation by the Cultural and Community Affairs Division of the City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services. This program is provided to the community every first Tuesday of each month. Call 229-4800 for additional details regarding this event... **Family Home Hospice** is offering ongoing training for volunteers. Volunteers will provide emotional support to terminally ill patients, caregiving respite, errand running, companionship and socialization for and caregivers, office help and assistance with the hospice's bereavement program. Call 671-1193 to register for an upcoming training session.... **The Las Vegas Fibromyalgia Syndrome/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group** will hold meetings every second Tuesday at Desert Springs Hospital, 2075 E. Flamingo Rd., from 5-5p.m. Participants are advised that this is a smoke-free and fragrance-free meeting due to individuals that suffer from chemical sensitivity. Call 645-2153 for more information.

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.

AIDS

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"more cautious" than what is demanded by the Treatment Action Center, the AIDS activist group that filed the law suit.

The government program has "a strong monitoring component, and one that takes a rigorous view of safety issues and effectiveness," Ntsaluba said in a statement.

Treatment Action Center spokesman Pholokgolo Ramothwala dismissed the government's argument, saying pilot programs are not needed for nevirapine, which he said has already been found to be effective.

Ramothwala blames the government foot-dragging on President Thabo Mbeki, who in the past has questioned the link between HIV and AIDS, saying poverty and malnutrition also contribute to the spread of the disease.

Land Reform

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tion for stalling the land reform process.

Several initiatives have taken place but the invasions of White-owned farms and the violence have not stopped, human rights groups claim.

Last month, a commonwealth ministers' team came to Zimbabwe in search of a solution to the land crisis but left worried that the government had done little to meet pledges it made in September in Abuja, Nigeria.

At the Abuja conference, the Zimbabwe government committed itself to uphold-

ing the rule of law in return for financial assistance for the country's land-reform program from Britain.

The UNDP team's visit comes one week after President Robert Mugabe issued a decree amending the Land Acquisition Act so that White commercial farmers can be forced off their land without recourse to the law.

The regulation gives farmers three months to evacuate their farms.

In a statement, the White Commercial Farmers Union (CFU), warned the regulation would lead to food short-

Ramothwala said he believes the Health Ministry "has been influenced by Mbeki's thinking on HIV-AIDS, trying to write it off as nothing. The government has options, it just does not want to use them."

The lawsuit claims that by refusing to make nevirapine widely available to HIV-infected pregnant women, the government is denying women and children their constitutional rights to health care.

Maqungo said that she decided to speak out about AIDS after watching her daughter languish in the hospital in the final days of her life, too ill to do anything but sleep.

"I was not open about my (HIV) status but after she died I decided to say something ... to save other children from experiencing the same thing she did," she said.

ages and increase the level of unemployment-which now stands at 60 percent-as more farm workers would be evicted. The union said it will also have a serious impact on the manufacturing sector-half of which is agriculture-related.

In a communiqué to its members, Commercial Farmers Union (CFU) President Colin Cloete described the decree as a "travesty of justice."

"This move will go down in history as a desperate attempt by government to subvert the last vestiges of prop-

erty rights, particularly with respect to rural agricultural landowners. Seasons come and seasons go but, Zimbabweans from all walks of life agree, never has this nation sunk so low," said Cloete.

Political analysts accuse the government of politicizing the land issue for campaign purposes ahead of next year's crucial presidential elections. Mugabe says he needs the land to give to the millions of communal farmers, most of whom live in arid and semi-dry areas with rocky soils not fit for any agricultural production.

Mumia

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campaign is sowing the pregnant seeds of civil war in Pakistan, and rolling instability in the whole region.

For the closer the U.S. nestles to Pakistan, the more nervous the (democratic!) Republic of India gets. The two nations are already involved in an on-again, off-again, shooting war over the northern Indian (or is it western Pakistani?) province of Kashmir.

Kashmir, with its overwhelmingly Muslim population, has been agitating for home rule and national independence

for decades. To the Indians, Kashmiri militants are "terrorists." To the Pakistanis, they look a lot like "freedom fighters." (Isn't that the same thing that was said about the Taliban when they were "mujahadeen" fighting the Soviets?)

The U.S. charges into a thicket, knowing neither its enemies, nor its real friends.

It is a time of danger, that holds dangers not just for the U.S., nor even the region: but the world.

Mumia Abu-Jamal, 47, is on death row for the killing of a white police officer. He proclaims his innocence.

Overstreet

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Complicating matters is the fact that national statistics support the observation that poor, undereducated people have more babies at an earlier age than other statistical groups.

Needless to say, if you are undereducated, in a low-paying job or unemployed, chances are that you also do not have health insurance. If you are struggling to make ends meet, chances are you do not have time to volunteer to help other people. If you are old, you may choose to devote the energy you have left to having a good time,

rather than helping others. The rich often possess the attitude, "I got mine, you get yours," so they volunteer very little time and even less money to helping others. These conditions are why citizens of Nevada volunteer less of their time than do citizens in a vast majority of other states.

Is our condition hopeless? The answer is no, if we recognize our condition and demonstrate the collective resolve to bring about needed changes.

In sleep-inducing speeches that I give on a periodic basis, I talk about com-

ing to our six senses. I am listing them here for your review as to any applicability the list may have to changing not only our state's condition, but each of our own personal circumstances in life.

Work to strengthen the family unit; demonstrate a sense of charity; understand

our history; understand and practice the meaning of two specific phrases by Frederick Douglas and Calvin Rolark; spend your money in ways that generate black wealth; and vote your interests, every other group vote theirs.

Next time, I will write about the six senses in greater detail.

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