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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Medical center celebrates 15 years of service

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

May marks a milestone for a valley-wide medical center franchise that started out as a 1,000-square foot office.

A special VIP reception and patient appreciation day is slated today in commemoration of Rainbow Medical Center 15 years of treating the ailments of locals and visitors alike.

"It's a day of celebration," say Rainbow marketing director Diane Hughes. "We never thought we would be doing this for 15 years... never thought we would grow to be this big."

Adding, in a released statement, Rainbow Medical Cen-

ter founder Dr. Anthony Pollard says: "As Las Vegas continues to grow, we have had the privilege to grow with it.

Pollard says the key to success was simple: "Providing quality healthcare while establishing a solid patient base."

From a humble office building in North Las Vegas, the franchise has grown to seven facilities, including a Henderson location.

Also key to the center's prosperity, Hughes says, is running the family practice in a family-oriented way. The facility doesn't treat urgent-care patients.

By accepting a wide variety of insurance plans, the centers have twice earned na-

tionally recognition by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

It's also won acclaim for its health fairs, including the annual "Spring into Health Fair," "Cinco Mayo Health Fair" and the "Halloween Health Fair."

The center co-sponsors additional medical events, including the "Health at Work" program which aims to reduce insurance rates for new employees who do not yet have health coverage.

Rainbow also hosts the annual Las Vegas Juneteenth Festival, a celebration of the abolition of slavery.

In the philanthropic realm, Pollard and Hughes founded

the Art for Education program, which awards scholarships to disadvantaged youths in the Clark County School District, in addition to the first Academy of African-American Studies in Nevada.

"Events help to promote the (African-American Studies) academy and its benefits to our community," says Hughes, president of the board of trustees for the academy.

"Education is the gateway to opportunity, and the academy's long-term goal is to assist students on the path to achieving success."

For more information, call any Rainbow Medical Center or visit their website at www.rainbowmedical.com.



Photo special to the Sentinel-Voice

Dr. Anthony Pollard and his wife, Diane Hughes have operated Rainbow Medical Centers for 15 years.

Activists: Now's time for Bush to rebuild America

By Hazel Trice Edney

NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — As the Bush administration concentrates on rebuilding a post-Saddam Hussein Iraq, some social policy experts are urging the president to give equal attention to rebuilding America's social fabric.

"President Bush has been a champion for democracy over there. But he has been silent on democracy over here," says Rev. Wendell Anthony, pastor of Fellowship Chapel United Church of Christ and president of the Detroit Branch of the NAACP. "If America has enough resources to build Iraq in the Middle East, then we have the resources to rebuild Detroit in the Midwest."

Critics say Bush is pushing for health care for all Iraqi citizens while 40 million Americans are uninsured. He is pushing for the rehabilitation of 6,000 school buildings in Iraq while under-funding by \$10 billion his two-year-old

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education initiative, "No Child Left Behind." And he wants a new electoral system in Iraq — complete with checks and balances to protect against election disputes — despite charges

that America's electoral system needs an overhaul.

"We're talking about giving out contracts to build 6,000 schools [in Iraq] when we have schools in my district that are literally getting wet in the rain, buildings that are literally over 100 years old," says Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Elijah Cummings (D-Md.). "The economy is already in disarray. He's still trying to give a substantial tax cut. The economy itself is on the down stroke. We're spending extra money for homeland security and additional money for the war. I mean, if that's not a combination for economic disaster, I don't know what is."

Cummings says he supports helping the Iraqi people after America and its allies have destroyed their country. However, he adds: "I'm just saying that we need to start off by looking at the children within a few miles of the very capital where Mr. Bush sits and throughout this country."

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In this court artist's rendering, Circuit Court Judge Jane Marum Roush, right, hears arguments by defense attorney Mark Petrovich, foreground-left, wearing red tie, seated next to fellow defense attorney Tom Walsh, and sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo, second from right, with hands folded on table, in a courtroom in Fairfax, Va., on Tuesday.

Virginia judge waits to rule on Lee Malvo confession

Special to Sentinel-Voice

FAIRFAX, Va. - A decision on whether a confession by sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo was offered willingly or coerced will have to wait as a judge pores over the fine points of case precedence.

Fairfax County Judge Jane Marum Roush said Tuesday she needs time to examine the law surrounding a defendant's right to remain silent and have a lawyer present. A ruling could come in the next seven to 10 days.

Malvo, 18, and John Muhammad, 42, are accused in at least 20 shootings, including 13 deaths, in Virginia, Maryland, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Washington, D.C. Both could face the death penalty if convicted.

Malvo confessed to some of the shootings during a six-hour interrogation on Nov. 7, just after he was transferred from federal custody to Virginia authorities.

But defense lawyers argued that improprieties by police and prosecutors conspired to keep Malvo from his lawyers and that Malvo's request to speak to his attorneys was ignored by police.

"Something's rotten here," defense lawyer Thomas Walsh said after the two-day hearing. "You have attorney after attorney trying to contact him. And he asked for his attorney."

Prosecutors argued that Malvo's mention

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