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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

NAACP commemorates decision

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel Voice

"Today, education is perhaps the most important function of state and local government... It is required in the performance of our most basic public responsibilities... Today it is a principal instrument in awakening the child to cultural values, in preparing him for later professional training, and in helping him adjust normally to his environment... Such an opportunity, where the state has undertaken to provide it, is a right which much be made available to all on equal terms." - *Brown vs. Board of Education, May 17, 1954*

In recognition of this historical landmark court decision, the local chapter of the NAACP paid tribute to this event at its monthly meeting. The commemoration of the Brown decision is particularly impor-



The Las Vegas branch of the NAACP commemorated the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court case, *Brown vs. Board of Education (Topeka, Kan.)*, with an educational forum. The panel was composed of Al Brown, left to right, Dr. Thomas Washington, Dr. Marion Bell and Dr. Tracy Cotton.

tant to the NAACP, as this association developed the plan and led the charge to build a foundation for ensuring that all students have access to a high quality education.

The event was scheduled from 12 noon to 3 PM last Saturday at the North Las Vegas Justice Court, but was delayed for 45 minutes due to

some unforeseen reason, and only drew a crowd of about 25 people. The organization gave no excuse for the lateness in the start of the meeting, or why it was poorly attended.

After the introduction of the panel, composed of Al Brown, Dr. Thomas Washington, Dr. Marion L. Bell, Dr. Tracy B. Cotton, and

Louie Overstreet, a statement of purpose and the reading of a proclamation from Gov. Kenny Guinn and Rep. Shelly Berkley, took place. Testimony was given by various individuals focusing on two questions: 1. What is your concern related to the quality of education being offered (See NAACP, Page 3)

Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

Karaoke event aims to reveal unknowns

John T. Stephens III
Sentinel Voice

Karaoke has spread across the country and has made it possible for singing-in-the-shower sensations to become famous.

The Inkatha Youth Foundation for the Arts hopes to uncover hidden talent via its free "IAM Karaoke Parties in the Parks."

Entertainers of all stripes—singers, rappers, poets, dancers—can showcase their talents (participants are encouraged to bring their own tracks on CD or cassette).

"We want the people to come out and get to know the community," Inkatha Youth Foundation founder and CEO Laurence T. Inkatha said. "The business community, the artistic community, the people community and the children community."

In addition to the karaoke, there will also be live jazz, funk and R&B, delivered by Laurence T. and the IAM Family Band, along with a special performance from Barry "G" and Karaoke 2000. During the initial event, Laurence T. will also release his new CD entitled, "The Return of Funk Daddy." He describes the music as "the new sound of class: smooth funk jazz".

Every act will be video taped with IAM scouting the crowd for new talent to join them.

The Inkatha Youth Foundation was established in 1996 and has more than 300 youth members. It's comprised of an entrepreneurial side and an artistic side. Most of the participants (See Park, Page 3)

Former New Orleans Mayor tabbed for National Urban League

By George E. Curry
Editor-in-Chief

NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON (NNPA)

— Former New Orleans Mayor Marc H. Morial has been elected to succeed Hugh B. Price as president and chief executive officer of the National Urban League.

In announcing the appointment on Thursday, Board of Trustees Chairman Michael J. Critelli, chairman and CEO of Pitney Bowes, Inc., said: "Marc Morial's entire professional career has been focused on championing urban issues, and importantly, the socio-economic issues that significantly impact the League's constituencies.

"We strongly felt that we needed a dynamic leader who understands and is committed to the League's mission of equality and opportunity and is experienced at mobilizing diverse groups to achieve results."



"The National Urban League made great strides under the leadership of Hugh Price, and it is strategically positioned to be a great catalyst for progress in our urban communities."

— Marc H. Morial

Morial becomes the League's sixth chief executive since it was founded in 1910. He succeeds Hugh B. Price, who retired after nine years in the position.

"The National Urban League made great strides under the leadership of Hugh Price, and it is strategically positioned to be a great catalyst for progress in our urban communities," Morial said in a statement issued after his appointment by the board.

Also in the running for

president was Milton J. Little Jr., the organization's executive vice president and chief operating officer. He has served as interim president since April 7, when Price left office.

Morial is expected to make his first appearance before the Urban League family in Pittsburgh at the organization's annual conference in July.

A lawyer with the law firm of Adams and Reese, a power- (See Urban League, Page 2)



DOCTORS IN THE HOUSE

Smiling proudly are Velicia McMillan-Haron, left, and Marcia Robinson, both recipients of doctorates in education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The duo received the degrees during commencement Saturday. Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy