

LAS VEGAS

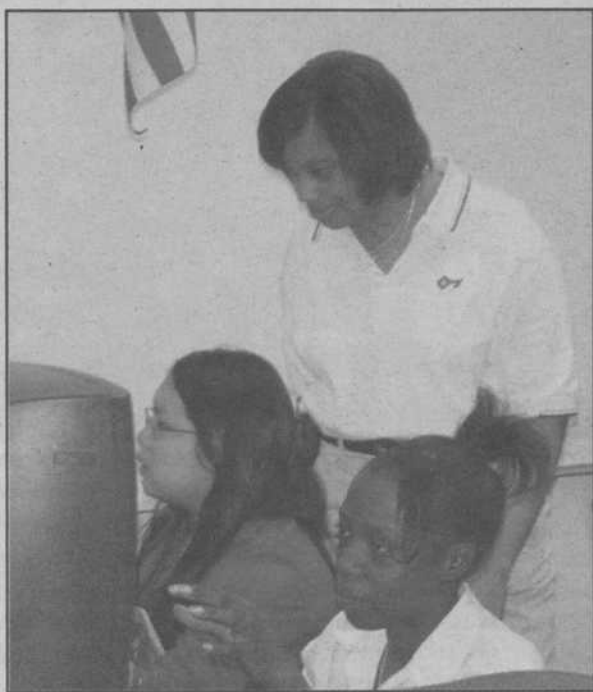
Sentinel Voice

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Urban Financial Services Coalition member Patricia Dixon works with Felicia Bliatout, left, and Sheila Bell, participants in Clark High's magnet finance program.

Bankers teach students finance

By Mary Bleier
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Some Clark High School students recently got an economic lesson on the age-old adage, "What goes up must come down."

The 1920s was an era of Flappers, gangsters, music and art, the Harlem Renaissance and, of course, economic prosperity. After years of a flourishing economy, the stock market took a horrific plunge, leaving much of the United States in economic disarray in 1929. But today, 75 years later, 20 students enrolled in the magnet program of the Academy of Finance at Clark High School are learning all about the volatile market and what important trends and signs to look out for that the stockbrokers in 1929 ignored.

"This is really helping to educate the students," said Fred Thomas, managing director of the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC Dain Rauscher) in Minneapolis and former Urban Financial Services Coalition (UFSC) national president. "The kids are learning a lot of information in a short period of time. I think some of these students could be future employees of RBC."

The educational program, "Wall Street Whiz Stock Market Challenge," took place on May 18-19 at the high school. In its fourth year, the program is sponsored by UFSC. Founded in 1974, UFSC is made up of more than 100,000 minority professionals in banking and other financial services and has 39 chapters across the United States and Canada. Members volunteer their time to help provide assistance and advice to local communities. UFSC strives to serve as mentors to students, helping to foster interests in banking, economics and business finance, by providing hands-on training through the Wall Street program.

To participate in the challenge, each student was "given" \$100,000 to invest in the New York Stock Exchange. From there, they learned important terminol-

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Jubilee doubles as civic cleanup

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

Hundreds of residents of West Las Vegas gathered to celebrate the "V" (Victory) Community Jubilee/Community Clean Up on Saturday. The event featured several gospel groups, vendors, community agencies and various programs and services available to people living in the neighborhood.

Kechia English, a coordinator for the event, spoke about the reason the church chose to host this event in the community.

"The 'V' Community Jubilee is all about giving back to the community," she said. "We are a church located in the area of West Las Vegas and people think that church is only about people coming into the sanctuary for worship and praying. What our church is trying to do through this effort at community jubilee is we're calling this 'Christmas in May.' We want to give back to the community through social, economic and spiritual growth."

Community Jubilee met needs and presented oppor-



Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

County liaison Tanya Flanagan speaks during Saturday's civic clean up. Also on stage (L to R): Sheriff Bill Young, the Rev. Robert Fowler and Metro gang officer Jerry Simone.

tunities.

"We have vendors around the perimeter blocked area of the event and they have information about job opportunities, opening checking and savings accounts, entrepreneurs selling their products and services and a showcase of talent from Las Vegas," English said. "We have corporate businesses who want

to work with us and are offering health services. Many people in the neighborhood aren't able to access health services, so we have nurses and a health zone offering HIV testing, a blood drive and diabetes screening. We want to give back to the community as much as we can beyond the walls of the church."

Outreach to the community is educational, responding to an assortment of questions.

"Our outreach is seeking to help people understand about the programs and services offered in the community," English said. "What does it take to own my own business? How can I save up

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Jarrett left journalistic legacy

By George E. Curry
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - Initially, I began this article with the ordinary things people write about when someone dies. But I hadn't gotten to the end of the first paragraph before I realized that I couldn't write anything ordinary about Vernon Jarrett, the pioneering journalist who was extraordinary in so many ways. Vernon died Sunday night at the University of Chicago Hospitals at the age of 84 after a long bout with cancer of the esophagus.

This story is not about how Vernon died - it's about how he lived.

Vernon has always been a larger-than-life icon in journalism. He entered the field in 1946, the year before I was born, but we have always shared a special bond. We



VERNON JARRETT

are both Southerners; he grew up in Paris, Tenn. and I spent all of my childhood in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Both of us were history majors and editor of The Aurora, the school newspaper, at Knoxville College. We both maintained a passion for our alma mater and had been serving together on its Board of Trustees. Beyond that, Vernon Jarrett has set a high standard that I can only aspire to reach.

Most important, he was talented. Not only was he tal-

ented, he was in the never-ending quest to become the perfect writer. Whenever you saw the Vernon Jarrett byline on a story, it was solid assurance that everything that followed was well-researched and well-written. You could take it to the bank. Vernon was a founding member of the National Association of Black Journalists, served as its second president from 1977-1979, and prided himself on having never missed a convention in more than 25 years.

At each annual convention, you were as likely to find Vernon in the hotel lobby advising some newcomer in the business about his or her career as attending a workshop or speech.

Vernon Jarrett was a "race man" in the tradition of W.E.B. DuBois, William Monroe Trotter and Paul

Robeson, towering historical figures that he could — and did — lecture about without prompting. He praised and challenged African-Americans and went to his death befuddled that any Black person working in journalism today could part his lips to ask whether he was a Black journalist or a journalist who happened to be Black.

Vernon and Les Payne, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of Newsday, would direct young journalists to read the birth announcements in newspapers and see if they could ever find a single instance of a mother giving birth to a 7-pound, 8 ounce "journalist."

Vernon's position was that we're born Black, we live as Blacks, we die Black, and we should feel some obligation to help people who are Black. It is only fitting that Vernon

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