

LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice



VOLUME 26, ISSUE 16

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

August 18, 2005

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Former President Bill Clinton escorts Eunice Johnson, wife of pioneering publisher John Johnson, into the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel in Chicago on Monday for the Johnson's funeral. The media pioneer died at 87.

Dignitaries bid mogul farewell

By Karen E. Pride and Leslie Jones McCloud
Special to Sentinel-Voice

CHICAGO (NNPA) -The funeral service for Johnson Publishing Company mogul John H. Johnson Monday had all the trappings of a state funeral.

Streets around the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel were blocked by blue, wooden police barricade; limousines and small motorcades made continuous stops on two sides of the chapel, and Secret Service agents stood silently and discretely around the grounds.

Chairs were set up on the sidewalk, under a throng of trees to accommodate those who were unable to get a seat inside Rockefeller Chapel for the funeral of media magnate John H. Johnson.

Most were dressed in their Sunday best, but many stopped to take in the tributes to a man who many said put a human face on the Black community, gave them their first job and changed the way corporate America viewed Black consumers.

Mourners were lined up in double rows along the west sidewalk in front of the South Side chapel nearly two hours before the 11:00 a.m. event.

Local and national news outlets, including Black Entertainment Television's Nightly News anchor Jacquie Reid, as well as a horde of photographers, converged on the scene, documenting the crowds and noting the arrivals of celebrities and dignitaries.

And arrive they did.

Luminaries such as Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), President Bill Clinton and Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan paid tribute to Johnson.

Among the numerous VIP's in attendance were: PBS
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New schools honor Black icons

By Parker Philpot
Sentinel-Voice

There are more than 300 schools in Clark County. Some sites are named for people, some for places and some for things. This school year, two of the 12 new schools set to open will be named for notable African-Americans with deep roots in the community.

Theron Hulan Goynes and Naomi Delores Jackson Goynes each devoted more than four decades to educating children in public school systems in Arkansas, Arizona, California and Nevada. They are the namesakes for Theron H. and Naomi D. Goynes Elementary School, 3409 Deer Springs Way in North Las Vegas.

Dr. William H. "Bob" Bailey is noted for civil rights activism and minority business development in Nevada and pioneering in Las Vegas television broadcasting. Bailey is the namesake for William H. "Bob" Bailey Middle School, 2500 N. Hollywood Blvd., in Las Vegas.

The Clark County School Name Committee recommended them as school namesakes on September 15, 2003. Both schools will open at the start of the new school year on Monday, August 29. The dedication ceremonies at both schools will take place in 2006.



Special to Sentinel-Voice

The names behind the schools: Theron and Naomi Goynes of Theron H. and Naomi D. Goynes Elementary School.

On Wednesday morning, the namesakes were recognized along with others at a ceremony at Judy Bayley Theatre on the UNLV campus. Bailey and Theron and Naomi Goynes attended "Celebrating the Progress," where the architects for the 12 new buildings presented renderings to the respective school principals, according to spokespersons for the event sponsor, Council for Educational Facilities Planners International.

After the ceremony, all three expressed their feelings about joining the growing ranks of other living namesakes:

"I'm in a high state of excitement," said Bailey.

He spoke about his wife and the family's reaction when the committee selection was first announced. "They are ecstatic."

Bailey said Anna, his wife, told him "she's glad someone recognizes [my years of work and contributions]."

"I feel very humbled and exceedingly excited," said Goynes, and his wife said the entire family is still "overwhelmed" since the couple was selected as co-namesakes. He added, "We feel very elated."

Most of the schools in the district were named in honor of school board members, administrators, teachers, civic leaders and citizens

who pioneered in the early days of Las Vegas.

The first African-American namesake in the school district was educator Kermit R. Booker Sr. (1906-1966). Goynes was an active participant in efforts to secure that recognition for Booker, according to historians.

Local schools that bear the names of African-Americans include: Eva G. Simmons Elementary, Clyde C. Cox Elementary, Mabel Hoggard Magnet School, Charles I. West Middle School and James B. McMillan Elementary, among others.

Many schools have living namesakes who are active in the school and student achievement in a number of ways. Bailey and Goynes will bring their skills, experience and compassion for education to the lives of the students headed for the new schools.

Referring to her family, Goynes said one of the significant meanings of being a namesake is that "it is a legacy" for them. They have three children and five grandchildren, all living here, and their two daughters are directly involved in education. The youngest daughter is assistant principal at a district school and the eldest is a guidance counselor.

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Jakes lambastes 'yellow journalism'

By Maynard Eaton
Special to Sentinel-Voice

ATLANTA (NNPA) -The nation's premier preacher, Bishop T.D. Jakes, reacted swiftly and sternly to a published report where the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) censured him for not advertising with Atlanta's Black Press prior to his hugely successful MegaFest 2005, one of the largest religious conferences ever.

"To be called cheap in that article was an insult," said Jakes heatedly to this reporter. "It also upset me that

rather than come to me directly for resolution, this matter was discussed publicly in the press."

Bishop Jakes was incensed, defiant and defensive; and he was dismayed with how he had been portrayed. Following his speech to the National Association of Black Journalists earlier this month, he pulled this reporter into the downtown Hyatt Regency Hotel kitchen's corner — ordered his security to keep his entourage and others at a distance — and harangued and reprimanded this reporter

with a blistering retort to my previous story.

"Every time I don't spend money now I am a bad guy?" he asked incredulously. "You don't resolve a business conflict with 'yellow' journalism."

That rebuke brought this retort from Atlanta Voice editor Stan Washington who witnessed, but was not allowed to participate by Jakes' security in the interview: "It's only 'yellow journalism' if it is untrue or it is a deliberate attempt to smear someone. The story was neither. It was the truth. No one is out to

slander Jakes or his organization."

In that Atlanta Voice story — which was subsequently reprinted in dozens of Black-owned papers across the country — NNPA President John Smith Sr. lamented that much to his chagrin not one single dime was spent with Atlanta's Black Press by Jakes' Mega Fest extravaganza, which drew some 150,000 people to Atlanta. The snub followed a June speech by Jakes to the NNPA, a federation of more than 200 Black newspapers, (See Jakes, Page 14)