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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Adoption event touts family

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

The Eighth Annual Adoption Fair was held last Saturday at the Clark County Government Center Amphitheater. The theme was "Learn How You Can Open Your Heart and Home to a Waiting Child," promoting the need for "Forever Families" to adopt children looking for a loving family. It was sponsored by the Clark County Department of Family Services, along with the Adoption Exchange and other governmental agencies.

This annual event seeks to bring together prospective parents and children hoping to be adopted, along with professionals interested in



Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

Edith Craig lounges with two of her foster children, DaVaughn and Corey Duke, at Saturday's adoption fair.

finding permanent homes for local children who are waiting to be adopted. Those attending the fair were also able to get information from various foster care agencies that help abused and neglected children.

Susan Klein-Rothchild, Director of the Clark County Department of Family Services, commented on the reason for hosting this annual event. She said, "The purpose of the adoption fair is to raise the awareness for adoption, to celebrate the joys of adoption, and help people who might have been considering adoption learn more about it and explore the possibilities. We have fami-

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Residents impatient for grocery

By Parker Philpot
Sentinel-Voice

Tuesday evening, a public forum was held at the West Las Vegas Library at 951 West Lake Mead Blvd. for area residents and elected officials to discuss the progress and next steps toward securing a new grocery store in their area.

For more than eight

months, residents and members of ACORN, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, have rallied to urge the City of Las Vegas to secure a new store for the established community in the heart of the historic Westside neighborhood.

The residents have been without a full-service grocery store nearby for more than a

year following the sudden closing of the Vons store near the corner of H Street and Owens Avenue, a large building that now sits boarded and vacant in a strip mall with a sizable parking lot.

Efforts to have it reopened or subleased by another major grocer are yet unsuccessful and have encountered some resistance due, in

part, to controversy on the suitability of the location. Vons retains and continues to pay on the remaining 11-year lease.

The forum follows receipt of development proposals by the city for a vacant lot at Martin Luther King and Lake Mead. It is the target location which ACORN and allied residents have pushed for, insisting that the city release the 10 acres of land with a conditional bid request requiring developers' proposals to include a full-service grocery in any plan for a retail center there. The city did release the land for development several months ago.

Ninety-five people attended the forum to hear Ward 5 area's City Councilman Lawrence Weekly and coordinators of ACORN, who are spearheading the action, speak about the request for proposal issued by the city and to learn about the respondents to that RFP process. The city's RFP was issued on September 1 and closed on October 17.

There were 30 interested potential applicants at the informational RFP meeting. Weekly told the audience, emphasizing, "only two proposals were received." (See Grocery, Page 2)



Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

County Commissioner Lynette Boggs-McDonald, right, shares the stage with Helena Lukac, whose son, Marine Pfc. John Lukac, died in Iraq. Pfc. Lukac was given a posthumous award at this tribute to veterans.

Veterans honored for their sacrifice

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

About 150 veterans and their guests gathered last Friday at the Silverton Hotel and Casino to commemorate Veteran's Day in honor of the men and women who serve in the military. "We Salute Their Bravery" was hosted and sponsored by Clark County Commissioner Lynette Boggs-McDonald.

Boggs-McDonald started the annual tribute five years ago when she served on the Las Vegas City Council. She said she wants to continue to recognize those who have contributed a lot to maintain the freedom of Americans.

Boggs-McDonald spoke about this year's event: "This is the fifth year that I have been able to host the Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast. Having grown up in a military family, I have always honored veterans my entire life. My father was a career soldier serving 30 years in the United States Army, and I just know, personally, of the great sacrifices that our men and women make to serve our country. It is an honor for me to pay tribute to the veterans who are constituents living in my county district."

She added, "It is uplifting to have an event such as this, with tributes to the veterans and patriotic music..." In addition, she said the event was to honor "a young marine, John Lukac, who graduated from Durango High School in 2003 and made the ultimate sacrifice at the age of 19 of losing his life in Iraq defending our liberties and freedom."

A special posthumous award was made by Boggs-McDonald to the family of Marine Pfc. John Lukac for his service. Giving thanks to Boggs-McDonald for recognizing the sacrifice that her son made for this country, Helena Lukac said, "First of all, it was a very, very

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RESTORATION REVEREND

Civil rights veteran Rev. Jesse Jackson, right, welcomes actress Dawn Lewis Tuesday night during the "Restore Our Students' Education—Let's Reconstruct, Restore, Return and Save Our Children" fundraiser at the Las Vegas Hilton. The event raised \$100,000 for Xavier, Dillar and Southern University, all damaged during Hurricane Katrina.