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GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Blacks wary about illegals

Claim immigrants taking jobs

By M.L. Ingram

Special to Sentinel-Voice

PHILADELPHIA (NNPA) - For Blacks and Latinos, efforts in securing a place in America have been, in many ways, intertwined. But that view may unravel as current trends show a wave of illegal immigration has negatively affected Blacks.

In spite of published reports indicating increases in jobs and decreases in unemployment levels, Blacks are still struggling. With the nationwide unemployment rate dropping from February's rating of 4.8 percent, the number for Black unemployment, skilled or unskilled, remained at a cumulative 9.3 percent.

Bernard Anderson, professor of economics at the University of Pennsylvania, said numbers such as these should sound some kind of alarm.

"In the midst of a very conservative trend, jobs are up, but opportunities for Blacks are diminishing," said Anderson. "Employment of illegal immigrants has made a significant dent in the nation's population. Because of this, African-American leadership, for the most part, is silent and conflicted on this matter."

According to the Census Bureau's Center for Immigration Report of 2004, of the 4.2 million immigrants entering the United States between 2000 and 2004, 50 percent are illegal aliens.

In addition, since 1970, sub-Saharan Africans have accounted for less than 2 percent of legal immigrants. By comparison, Mexican immigrants constituted 28 percent over the same period.

According to numbers gathered by the Pew Research Center, more than 11 million illegal immigrants lived in America in 2005, a 185 percent rise from more than a generation ago.

The origins of where they come from point to primarily Spanish-speaking countries. Seventy-eight percent of illegal immigrants come from Latin America, and 56 percent of them are Mexicans living full-time in America.

Out of a total workforce of 148 million Americans, it is estimated that almost 5 percent of all workers in the United States are earning salaries illegally.

Professor George Borjas, an economist from Harvard, did research that showed whether legally or illegally, working immigrants reduced wages of American-born citizens over the last 25 years.

These numbers don't bode well for Blacks, according to African-American Chamber of Commerce chairman A. Bruce Crawley. In a statement, Crawley spoke out against Philadelphia City Councilman Jim Kenney's immigration bill.

"The Center for Immigration Studies, through a Census Bureau derived report concluded any negative effect from immigration will fall on the 26 million native-born workers in the U.S. who already have the lowest wages and highest unemployment," said Crawley.

"Additional data states 40 percent of native-born Blacks work in high-immigrant occupations — cleaning, food preparation, manufacturing and transportation — this, in comparison to 22.9 percent of Whites in the (See *Immigrants, Page 4*)

EOB ponders KCEP's sale

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

Reminiscent of the legendary soulful tune of "Ain't No Stopping Us Now" by R&B duo McFadden and Whitehead, directors of the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County met last Thursday to discuss the imminent sale of its historic radio station asset, 88.1 KCEP-FM, to address the closure of a \$3 million operating deficit existing within the parent EOB agency.

An emotionally packed audience of over 50 gathered in the EOB auditorium to receive first-hand information on the possible impact that the potential sale would have on the organization and the community, and participants shared their perspectives about the process.

Founded in 1964, the EOB seeks to eliminate poverty through providing programs and services, re-



Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

Las Vegas City Councilman and EOB board member Lawrence Weekly, left, and EOB Executive Director Dr. Lester Murray address the anti-poverty group's crisis.

sources and advocacy for self-sufficiency and economic empowerment. The EOB supports over 50,000 residents in Clark County and is the largest private, non-profit 501(c)(3) social service organization in Nevada.

The meeting was an informational session since the EOB Board of Directors only consists of three members

representing two sector designations: Councilman Lawrence Weekly, public sector member serving as vice president and Reverend Marion Bennett and Linda Harris, both low-income sector members.

Since the board lacks members to constitute a quorum, it is unable to take any voting actions. In addition to the quorum requirement, for

directors to vote there must be at least three sector categories represented on the board.

In reference to the board composition and efforts to address the financial shortfall, Weekly said, "We are more than likely going to change the [sector category] of Reverend Bennett from that of low-income member to a private member so that we can meet the tri-level representation." Dr. Lester Murray, the executive director of EOB was in attendance at the meeting, but missing were the Chief Financial Officer Lister Chua, and Theodore Parker, EOB's legal counselor.

Gregory Guy of Patrick Communications gave a presentation about the potential sale of KCEP-FM. Guy was contracted by the EOB over six months ago to solicit offers from prospective buyers (See *KCEP, Page 3*)

Melee mars Mayweather-Judah

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Floyd Mayweather Jr. can only hope his perfect career hasn't been blemished by his own uncle. Mayweather was comfortably ahead in his IBF welterweight title fight, cruising toward yet another championship belt Saturday night, when frustrated champion Zab Judah hit him in the groin and the back of the head with two flagrantly illegal punches.

That's when Roger Mayweather, a former fighter who trains his nephew, jumped in the ring to challenge and, apparently, choke Judah. When Judah's father followed, it sparked a brawl that will take days to sort out, with the fighters' purses already suspended pending an investigation.

"I couldn't even realize what was happening for a while," Floyd Mayweather said. "I was in a neutral corner, and I was just thinking it was wild." Mayweather claimed



Las Vegas Metro and University of Las Vegas Nevada police clear the ring after a fight broke out late in the 10th round of the Floyd Mayweather Jr., Zab Judah IBF welterweight championship boxing match at the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas on Saturday.

Judah's title belt — for now — with a unanimous 12-round decision, becoming a champion in his fourth weight class. But the match was defined by the fight within the fight — a 10th-round scuffle between train-

ers and support staff from both camps after Judah sucker-punched his unbeaten opponent.

Don King, Judah's promoter, intended to protest the results and urge a disqualification for Mayweather. The

purses were suspended by Skip Avensino, the chairman of the Nevada Athletic Commission, until videotape of the skirmish could be reviewed.

Even by boxing's standards (See *Fight, Page 16*)