

# LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice



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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

## NCBW event fetes women

By Debbie Hall  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Las Vegas Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women will hold its second annual fundraiser, "The Madam C.J. Walker Awards Luncheon: Honoring Women in Business," Sunday at Bally's at 2:00 p.m.

Honorees include Bonnie Chu, founder and owner, Euphoria Salons and Day Spas and Euphoria Institute of Beauty Arts and Sciences; Elwyn McGough, owner, Sir Speedy Printing Center and the Victoria Napoles-Laza, senior vice president of the Latin Chamber. Gwen Braimoh, owner and founder of Expertise School of Beauty will also be recognized.

The special guest speaker for the luncheon will be actress, singer and community activist Gloria Reuben.

The organization was formed by a group of Black women in New York City working to address the problems that affected their families, their communities and themselves. The women mobilized their emerging strength into a visible and influential force. In 1971, an organization developed from this effort — the Coalition of 100 Black Women.

In 1981, there were approximately 900 members throughout New York's metropolitan area, far in excess of the symbolic "100" in its title. As they gained recognition, Black women from other parts of the country sought to duplicate its programs. Under the leadership of then-president, Jewell Jackson McCabe, the decision was made in October 1981 to create a national organization and become the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.

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## Urban League's first gala

By Tasha Pope  
Sentinel-Voice

The Las Vegas Clark County Urban League is hosting its first annual fundraising celebration Sunday, June 25, from 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the grand ballroom of the Bellagio Spa and Resort Hotel located at 3600 Las Vegas Blvd South.

All proceeds will benefit the Dr. William N. Pearson Community Center, which will be built in near the Historic West Las Vegas area.

The groundbreaking on June 23, according to Jacquelyn Shropshire board chair of the Las Vegas Clark County Urban League said.

The Pearson Center is an \$18 million publicly funded project and will not only offer recreational and educational services for the community, it will also become the new headquarters for the Urban League. The organization is currently located at 1058 W. Owens in the Nucleus Plaza Business Center.

The National Urban League is a community-



Sentinel-Voice photo by Kathi Overstreet

Jacquelyn Shropshire, board chair of the Las Vegas-Clark County Urban League working on fundraiser details.

based organization that works toward gaining equal opportunity and parity for African-Americans. This nonprofit, nonpartisan organization was originally founded in New York in 1910 and currently has 106 affiliates in 34 states.

The Las Vegas Clark County branch became an

affiliate in 2004 and currently has 250 members. They expand on their national mission by attempting to not only eliminate racial discrimination for African-American's but to create equal opportunities for the poor and other minorities here in Nevada.

Dr. William N. Pearson,

namesake for the center, was the first African-American supervisor in Clark County, according to Shropshire.

Shropshire said this fundraising celebration will be an annual event to ensure all Pearson Community Center programs are funded.

"Our programs will be addressing what the community thinks it needs. In order to have this type of independence we'll have to raise our own funds," Shropshire said.

Shropshire said the greatest advantage of the Pearson Center is that it will be designed to provide a safe place where children will learn and enjoy leisure activities after school.

"It will be a wonderful safe haven for the children to come in the morning and [also] get homework help after school. The children will walk to the center after school," she explained.

The 42,000 square-foot center, which will sit on 16 acres of land, will be located on the southwest corner of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

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## Scholarship icing on cake for young golfer

By Tasha Pope  
Sentinel-Voice

At 18, golfer Mackenzie Mack, who has been named First Tee scholar for 2006 and is on her way to Indiana State University on a full ride golf scholarship, says her experiences, though they've been bitter and sweet, were well worth the struggle.

As a senior at Cimarron Memorial high school, Mack, a Las Vegas native, is preparing to take on the college golf scene where she hopes to improve her game and use the additional exposure to gain credibility as a golfer.

"I look forward to getting my game together and playing on a level where people can see that I can play," Mack said.

Although Indiana State isn't a very big University, "It's in a college town and I



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Mackenzie Mack, 18, has golfed for 12 years. A Las Vegas native who's graduating from Cimarron Memorial, she will attend Indiana State University on a full golf scholarship.

can [solely] focus on school and golf," Mack said.

With her golf skills now shining across the city, Mack

said she credits her success to her strong support team.

"[My mom and sister] have supported me my whole

life. They pushed me to be where I needed to be," Mack said.

She has remained disci-

plined and sacrifices all her free time to practice and master her craft.

"During the summer I play everyday. I go to the range and practice all afternoon... stay there all day. I play in a lot of tournaments during the summer," Mack explained.

When she was age 6, Mack's mother, Jean Jackson, enrolled her and her younger sister in golf classes. Jackson said she chose golf because she wanted her daughters be involved in a unique sport.

Not long after her mother got her started, Mack found herself racing to the golf course and lighting up the competition.

"I just stuck with it. I just like the game and the competitiveness of it. I just love playing golf," Mack said.

At age 9, she joined the

Southern Nevada Junior Golf Association, an organization that affords junior golfers the opportunity to compete in tournaments as they learn the rules of golf, etiquette and other life skills.

Mack says SNJGA has played a major role in her success as a golfer and helped her learn skills that will assist her in the future.

"[I] gained experience and learned life skills [that will] help me become successful," Mack said.

She also gained skills from her involvement with The First Tee of Southern Nevada Association, which offers educational seminars, clinics and special events geared toward assisting junior golfers.

"They train you in first tee, then you move over the SNJGA to compete [in tour-

(See Golfer, Page 16)