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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Students of the West Las Vegas Art Center's summer program, *Performing & Visual Arts Camp for Kids*, goes through final rehearsal for their upcoming production at the International House of Blues and county library theaters.

Youth to showcase talent

By Debbie Hall
Sentinel-Voice

The goal for the West Las Vegas Arts Center's Performing & Visual Arts Camp for Kids 2006 is to emphasize the intrinsic value of performing arts for its own sake, as well as teaching skills to youth such as communication, teamwork, creative

thinking, invention and using imagination.

The PVAC 2006 season final musical production, "Children Out of the Box... Exploring Their Freedom," will showcase the collective works and accomplishments of its participants, past and present. There will be a series of three presentations,

each at a different location, during the first week of August.

The camp for kids is a partnership between the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District's West Las Vegas Library and the City of Las Vegas West Las Vegas Art Center.

PVAC has provided a

low-cost, eight-week program for high-risk youth, ages 10 to 15, during the summer months since 1996.

Annually, there are about 50 to 60 children recruited for the PVAC through school presentations, community open houses, and community agencies.

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County managers vying for Recorder

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

There are 10 candidates vying for the position of Clark County Recorder in the upcoming primary election on August 15.

The primary responsibilities of the position are to promptly record, preserve, and provide access to public records in an efficient and accurate manner. Along with providing information, another critical aspect of the job is improving the efficiency of the office through advanced technology.

The position was left vacant when former Recorder Frances Deane was removed



"Basically I saw an opportunity again to take things to the next level and be able to serve the public. I want to take into that office a fresh new perspective, a fresh new approach."

— Debbie Conway

from office and ultimately indicted under a criminal investigation for alleged illegal selling of public information to private business owners for more than \$10,000. Her immediate successor is

Charles Harvey, who is running for the office.

Charles Harvey was appointed to the interim position in mid-June after County Manager Thom Reilly suspended Deane after she was

arrested and charged by Metro police with 19 counts of violations including fraud and theft.

Interim Acting Recorder Harvey oversees a staff of 75 employees with a yearly budget of over \$4.2 million. He has presently worked in this office for the past three years. He spent three years in district court as a case manager, and prior to that his initial four years in the Recorder's office. He has a bachelor's in business management.

He has co-owned a preschool childcare facility for nine years in North Las Vegas.

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Bush rhetoric defies reality

By Hazel Trice Edney
Special to Sentinel-Voice

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - When talking about the pain of slavery before Black audiences, surprisingly, George W. Bush is excellent at conveying deep understanding and sensitivity. But according to his critics, the problem is that compassionate speeches, such as the one he gave before the NAACP last week, do not square with his record in office.

"There's a disconnect between what he says and what he does," says Frank Messiah, president of the NAACP branch in Buffalo, N.Y. Messiah remained seated during Bush's address while many delegates around him gave polite applause, some jumping to their feet.

"What he said is the right thing. People are grinning and smiling because he said the right thing," Messiah said. "But he appoints judges to the federal bench who have histories of doing the opposite of what he said. Nobody can argue about 'No Child Left Behind.' But do they know that it was not properly funded?"

Messiah's sentiments were the same as those voiced by a string of civil rights leaders.

"We not only need the right to vote, but the right to health care, the right to education, and the right to increased minimum wage," Jesse Jackson observes. "He also needs to engage, in a meaningful way, with civil rights leaders. He can meet with [Russian President] Putin and they disagree. He can meet with us and disagree."

Jackson, who has sought meetings with Bush, since his first term in office, has encountered what he describes as a "lockout of leadership."

Al Sharpton did not attend the speech because, he says, "George Bush has not demonstrated in such a way that I wanted to sit and act as if his words match his deeds and his policies."

While Jackson and Al Sharpton have been excluded from some recent White House meetings with Bush, NAACP President and CEO Bruce Gordon, the leader with the least civil rights experience, has been embraced by Bush and essentially serves as the point person when Bush wishes to meet with a select number of civil rights leaders. In fact, without Gordon's overtures to Bush, it is unlikely that the president would have spoken to the NAACP national convention for the first time since taking office.

"The moment I stepped into this role, I've been working to cultivate that relationship and we've had candid conversations," Gordon said in an interview following the speech. "We don't always agree, but we understand each other and that's what's important. I think that the openness of our communication of our personal relationship as well as my relationship with other members of his staff can at least provide us comfort that we're looking for ways to dialogue, and we're hoping to find ways where our principles and priorities intersect and where they do, we will work on it."

As Jesse Jackson sat glumly in the audience and Al Sharpton was 544 miles away in Atlanta, Bush was effusive in his praise of Gordon. "I've gotten to know him. See, shortly after he was elected, he came by the Oval Office. He doesn't mince words," Bush said. "It's clear

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