

MLK banquet speaker accomplished

Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice

The annual Martin Luther King Jr. banquet on Saturday will feature renown keynote speaker Albert E. Dotson Jr., national chairman of 100 Black Men of America Inc. Dotson became a member of the youth mentoring group in 1989 as a founding member of the 100 Black Men of South Florida Inc. and later president. He was elected secretary of the national office 1994, served two terms as vice president and was elected to chair in 2004.

Dotson is also an equity partner in the Miami law firm of Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP, which represents real estate developers in large-scale projects and matters regarding federal and local government procurement contracts and compliance.

Dotson graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in economics and history and earned his juris doc-

tor degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law and was awarded the Bennett Douglas Bell Memorial Prize for academic achievement and high ethical standards. He is bilingual in English and Spanish and studied at the Universidad de Granada in Spain.

Dotson's professional commendations and awards are numerous, as well as his expansive list of accomplishments.

In 2005 and 2006, he was named by *Ebony* magazine as "One of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans."

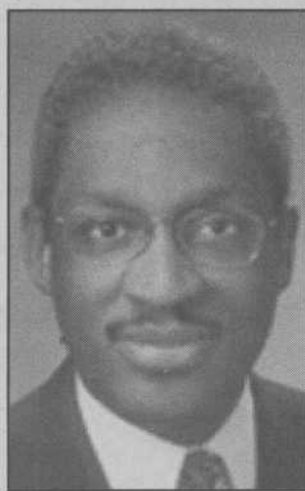
In 2005, the *Daily Business Review* tabbed him one of the "most effective lawyers" in real estate/construction law. Dotson has lectured at the National Law Institute on compliance with federal and state environmental laws and environmental insurance litigation.

The March of Dimes, in 2002, selected him for the

Community Excellence in Real Estate Law Award. In 2001, Dotson was selected by *Miami Metro Magazine* as one of South Florida's top lawyers.

Dotson serves on many executive committees and boards and as a trustee for several community-based agencies, including United Way of Miami-Dade County, Jackson Memorial Hospital Public Health Trust.

Dotson is chairman of the board of trustees for Miami Dade College Foundation. He chairs the Investment Committee, which is responsible hiring investment advisors and managers for moni-



ALBERT E. DOTSON JR.

toring the foundation's investments.

The committee presently oversees \$55 million in liq-

uid assets, among other investments. Miami Dade College awards more associate degrees than any other school in the nation and graduates the highest number of minority students.

Dotson is a native of Detroit Michigan and currently resides in Miami with his wife attorney Gail Ash Dotson and their two elementary school-aged children, Ashley and Albert III.

He and his family are members of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church, where Dotson chairs the board of trustees.

The Martin Luther King Committee's 25th Annual

Scholarship Banquet will be held on the Strip at the Monte Carlo Hotel and Casino in the Main Ballroom.

At the banquet, local youth are awarded scholarships for exemplary academic success.

According to MLK Committee member Dora LaGrande, the proceeds from the banquet will help to fund this year's week-long series of events, which are provided by the committee to the public at no cost.

A cocktails reception will be held at 6-7 p.m. and dinner will follow promptly.

Tickets for the event are \$100.

Summer business program seeks youth

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For the 12th year, the Summer Business Institute will offer an opportunity for 100 area youth to have summer employment. A partner-

ship between Clark County and more than 80 local businesses, the SBI will offer a wide array of jobs to high school juniors and seniors and youth entering college. Vocational fields include law, medicine, architecture, education and communications. The institute will run from the middle of June to the middle of August.

Clark County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates, key originator of the program, sees the eight-week

program as a way to expose disadvantaged inner-city youth to a broader array of career fields.

"The institute is a multifaceted program that services an incredible need in our community by giving youth from all backgrounds the opportunity to gain experience through exposure to careers not traditionally pursued by minority children," Atkinson Gates said.

"I am especially pleased by the growing support this

program has received from the business community and consider it a testament to what can be achieved when the private and public sectors work cohesively."

SBI teams professionals who mentor with applicants in their fields of choice during the two-month-long program. Non-traditional mentors and industries may include financial and investment consultants, mechanical engineering, building and

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Dr. Tyree Carr and Deloris Sawyer serve as marshals for this year's MLK parade.

MLK

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with the support of the committee, she wrote grants and developed programs that created 19 tutorial sites, developed college preparatory classes and raised thousand of dollars to assist low-income youth attend college.

Sawyer, who has a daughter, stepson and four grandchildren, will celebrate her 25th wedding anniversary this year. She said she lives by what her mother often told her:

"You cannot receive anything if you walk around with a closed fist."

She interpreted that to mean "give and you shall receive."

Chicago native Tyree Carr has been helping area residents see better since 1981. A graduate of the Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University in Chicago in 1976, he completed his residency at Kresge Eye Institute at Wayne State University School of Medicine in and was certified by the American Board of Ophthal-

mology certified in 1983.

A father of three, Carr served as the Martin Luther King Committee board chairman between 1988 and 1996. Under his leadership, the MLK Committee experienced great growth and served the local community with creative social and academic programs. He credits the entire team for their collective work.

Carr's community activism includes nearly a decade serving on the boards of organizations and foundations for health advocacy issues — diabetes awareness and prevention and the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation.

Carr and his office staff conduct numerous eye screenings at public health fairs and for private organizations. He was one of the first doctors to give food baskets in the name of other doctors to local churches and charities. Carr is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and other social and civic organizations where his generosity is further demonstrated.

Black historical society's second annual 'Gathering'

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The Las Vegas Black Historical Society Inc., will host its second annual "Gathering" on Saturday, January 27, at Nevada Partners, 710 W. Lake Mead Blvd., from 6:00 p.m. to midnight.

The LVBHS seeks to preserve the history of early Black pioneers that first

settled in Las Vegas, some as early as the 1930s. Many of the "pioneers" arrived as recently as just a few decades ago.

The organization also wants to raise funds to establish a historical and cultural center housing artifacts, books, photographs, newspapers, audio-video recordings,

oratorical presentations, and other memorabilia of Black history, as well as developing an interactive website.

Founding members Alice Key, Katherine Joseph, Sarann Knight Preddy, Claytee White, and Gwyn Brown formed the LVBHS two years ago. The LVBHS

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