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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Weekly gets commission seat

By Frank Armand Albano
Sentinel-Voice

With the sudden and unexpected resignation of District D County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates, Las Vegas Councilman Lawrence Weekly was appointed by Governor Jim Gibbons to fill the vacancy, which becomes effective March 2. A swearing-in ceremony is scheduled for March 6.

Weekly, one of several potential candidates for the appointment, got the nod on Tuesday at a press conference announcing his selection. His acceptance leaves the City Council with a timing and selection dilemma for replacing him.

Mayor Oscar Goodman said, "I'm not going to ask the taxpayers to pay for a special election."

That special election, per state statutes asks the voters of Ward 5 to pick Weekly's replacement.

Since Weekly is already up for re-election this year, it is fuzzy at this point as to what will happen.

"It's complicated," said Beverly Bridges Deputy City Clerk. "We don't know what's going to happen. We are working with the city at-



Sentinel-Voice photo by Marty Frierson

Former Las Vegas City Councilman Larry Weekly was appointed by Gov. Jim Gibbons to the county commission.

torney, and we'll know more by the end of the week," she said.

With the impending vacancy, the choices of how to work it all out are threefold.

For one, a special election

could be called. Another option is that a replacement could be appointed by the council. A third option lies with the upcoming April 2 primary. The position could be left vacant and voters' selections in the primary and June general election would stand.

Mayor Goodman said, "I haven't made up my mind who I will support."

Weekly said, "I will work with the city council and the mayor."

So far, with this Friday's deadline for candidates filing to run, four names have been posted: Richard Blue, Marion Bennett, Marcia Washington and Sondra Summers Armstrong.

By ordinance, the city council must appoint a replacement within 30 days. But, so far, Weekly has not submitted his resignation. His resignation starts the clock ticking for the replacement deadline.

Weekly is credited for

many accomplishments in the area but still has projects pending as some disappointed constituents are saying.

One of those projects is the acquisition of a 40,000 sq. ft. supermarket needed to anchor the Enterprise Project at Martin Luther King and Lake Mead boulevards.

Weekly has actively worked with developers to secure a grocery anchor for the huge area expanding with stores, office and restaurants. Weekly has worked actively with prospective grocers and developers.

At next week's regular council meeting, the status of the current contract holder, developer UrbanCore LLC, is on the agenda and will come up for consideration for termination or extension. It is unknown if Weekly intends to retain his seat through that meeting.

"I have not resigned," he said, "and I don't know when I'll resign. And right now I'm

running for re-election."

"The community has not [always] been happy with me," said Weekly. "One of the things I want to do is increase my office's response to phone calls."

Winning two re-elections in a row with a 76 percent margin, "It still hasn't been easy," said Weekly. "I can't please everybody."

Commission District D takes in a much larger area than Weekly's current Ward 5. The core area — the historic Westside neighborhoods — has many problems that other more affluent parts of town don't encounter. The abutting Wards 1 and 3 share similar problems but to lesser degrees.

"The problems of crime, violence, [need for] business development will remain," said a Ward 5 resident.

With Weekly's imminent departure, those matters will soon become the responsibility of his successor on the council.

Brandy eyed in motorist death

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The California Highway Patrol recommended Monday that actress-singer Brandy be charged with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter in a freeway crash that killed a woman motorist last month, a city attorney's spokesman told The Associated Press.

The CHP referred the matter to the city attorney's office for review, said spokesman Nick Velasquez.

"The office is currently reviewing the case and determining whether the evidence

warrants the filing of a misdemeanor charge of vehicular manslaughter," Velasquez said.

A message seeking comment from Brandy's publicist, Courtney Barnes, was not immediately returned.

Brandy, whose real name is Brandy Norwood, has publicly expressed condolences to the victim's family, Barnes said last week. Barnes also has said Brandy was not under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the

(See Brandy, Page 9)

'How She Move' inspiring tale

By Albert C. Jones
Special to Sentinel-Voice

PARK CITY, UTAH — Indeed, there is plenty of action in the step movie "How She Move," a world competition entry in last month's Sundance Film Festival.

Good news for director Ian Iqbal Rashid, screenwriter Annmarie Morais and a team of producers, Paramount Vantage picked up distribution rights for a reported \$3 million to \$4 million.

"Stomp the Yard" being out there doesn't matter.

"I think they are very different projects in tone and feel," said Rashid, who grew up in Toronto and now lives in London.

"What appealed to me and made me want to direct this movie was the family story. My family were immigrants to Canada.

I identified with Raya and

Annmarie's writing," he said.

Beautiful young people, Black, most with Jamaican accents, move through an

urban setting in search of hopes, dreams, fulfilling great expectations of parents and, of course, creating a six-

person step that sits down the competition.

Step is serious business (See 'Move', Page 3)



Cast, director and writer of "How She Move," pictured in downtown Park City, Utah, are Rutina Wesley and Melanie Nicholls-King, front, and Annmarie Morais, Ian Iqbal Rashid, Dwain Murphy and Clé Bennett. The family-oriented movie has received good reviews.