

Free help for homeowners to relieve mortgage trouble

Special to Sentinel-Voice

With the increasing national foreclosure rate and the local rate three times the national, a free seminar sponsored by HUD, along with other nonprofit organizations and partners is promising help for locals at risk of losing their homes.

The information offered will aid homeowners in default, facing foreclosure

and other problems, such as sharply increased payments due to a shift in adjustable rate mortgages.

The all-day educational seminar on September 8, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., is open to the public. It takes place in the Pebble Beach Room of the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino downtown at 129 E. Fremont St. For more information, call 366-2100.

Town Hall

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show up on any given night. Bernal invites calls to 455-7067 for more information.

After the meeting, Collins spoke further about ways to resolve the crime problem.

"I can't do it by arrest only. I don't have the jail space. The community must come together, and I told Commissioner Weekly he can have anything he wants," Collins said.

The Town Hall meeting was weekly's first since joining the council.

"It's only been six months, and it takes a long time to put this together," Weekly said.

Wilbert Townsend, with the Southern Nevada Health District, spoke favorably about Weekly's performance in his new position.

"He [Weekly] is doing the best job he can. It's difficult, but he's trying."

Another audience member said, "He's doing a good job, and he brings a wealth of

experience to the job," said Theron Gayes.

Weekly had served for more than ten years as city council representative for Ward 5, a central part of his current district.

Gayes acknowledged that Weekly answered her concerns. Another audience member, Herbert Gehner is a retired Highland Elementary School principal who said of Weekly, "He's honest."

Commenting on the crime issues facing District D, which includes Las Vegas' Historic Westside communities, Gehner said, "The problem is, the community must come together."

Responding to the low turnout of only about 25 people who attended the meeting, Gehner said, "It's got to be a joint effort." He added, "Three things that must work together: home, church and school."

"It starts in the home, how someone is brought up," Gehner concluded.

Shaw

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"Beyond this ballroom tonight, White males, wake up," Shaw continued. "Globally, you are an island speck in an ocean of color. The reins of power will weaken and so will your grip — if you do not faithfully support our nation's greatest strength, diversity. To you, caught in the middle, stay vigilant. You must stay strong."

Shaw, 67, in a later interview with online column Journal-isms.com also said, "I was speaking for the historical record. I expect my words to resonate long after I'm dead."

He said a speech accepting the NABJ's Lifetime Achievement Award deserved carefully chosen words.

"That was in the tradition of Frederick Douglass," the first well-known Black journalist, he said. "I was seeking to inspire, to inform and to light a fire under some a**es."

"...Instead, we are inundated with more and more negative images such as those in music videos and the degradation of Black women."

Black Entertainment Television was also the recipient of an award — the Thumbs Down Award, a unanimous

slap in the face, conferred, NABJ officials said, because of the network's depiction of Black images in the media, its lack of news and public affairs and the network's neglect to broadcast the funeral of civil rights icon Coretta Scott King in 2006.

"BET has a responsibility as a network for and about African-Americans to highlight the best in us," stated NABJ Vice President for Broadcast Barbara Ciara in a written statement.

"Instead, we are inundated with more and more negative images, such as those in music videos and the degradation of Black women. With BET's reach, it would be great to see less fluff and more relevant news and information that could greatly benefit our community."

Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama made separate appearances at the NABJ convention earlier this month, and each portrayed him/herself as the leader who would best serve the social and economic needs of the African-American community.

In what some described as an historic event featuring the first viable female and Black 2008 contenders for the

White House, Senators Hillary Clinton from New York and Barack Obama from Illinois both talked about race, criminal justice and the disparity among Blacks in housing and education.

The candidates spoke before a packed ballroom at Bally's during the annual enclave and both alluded to Chauncey Bailey, the 57-year-old Black journalist who was shot to death recently in Oakland, Calif.

Obama said the challenge for America's Black journalists "is to make sure that we are lifting up stories that are focused on the specificity of struggles that are happening in African-American communities."

Throughout the week, more than 3,000 Black journalists networked, and attended workshops on a range of topics including the Don Imus fallout, writing books, health disparities affecting Blacks, the digital media age and covering sports.

But many Black journalists said the highlight of the four-day convention was hearing directly from presidential candidates Clinton and Obama.

Richard Prince of Journal-isms.com contributed to this story.

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