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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Events focus on breast cancer education

*Shirley Savage-Hampton
Sentinel-Voice*

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Two local groups — Sisters Network-Las Vegas Chapter and Courage Unlimited Inc. will host activities celebrating breast cancer survivors and promoting breast health awareness in the African-American community.

Sisters Network-Las Vegas Chapter will host their fifth annual Hat Tea & Fashion Show on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 27, from 3 to 6 p.m., at Sunrise Hospital in the Sunrise Auditorium at 3186 Maryland Parkway.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Annabel Barber, a Las Vegas-based general surgeon. She will answer questions and talk about advancements in care for women. The host will be Lillian McMorris, media personality and community events publicist.

Sisters Network is a national African-American breast cancer survivor orga-

nization. The volunteers address the breast health needs of African-American women, through its affiliate chapters and partnerships with existing service providers. Most of the members are breast cancer survivors, each one committed to establishing the much needed community breast health services and to raising awareness of prevention and early detection. Proceeds benefit the outreach and education programs of the organization.

As a nationally recognized organization by leading medical establishments and breast cancer physicians, Sisters Network is also recognized as a critical information resource for African-American women. There are key issues and discussions that are vital for the Black community: higher mortality, lower early detection rates and other specifics.

Sisters Network President Jeannie Beatty has survived two battles with breast cancer. She was first diagnosed

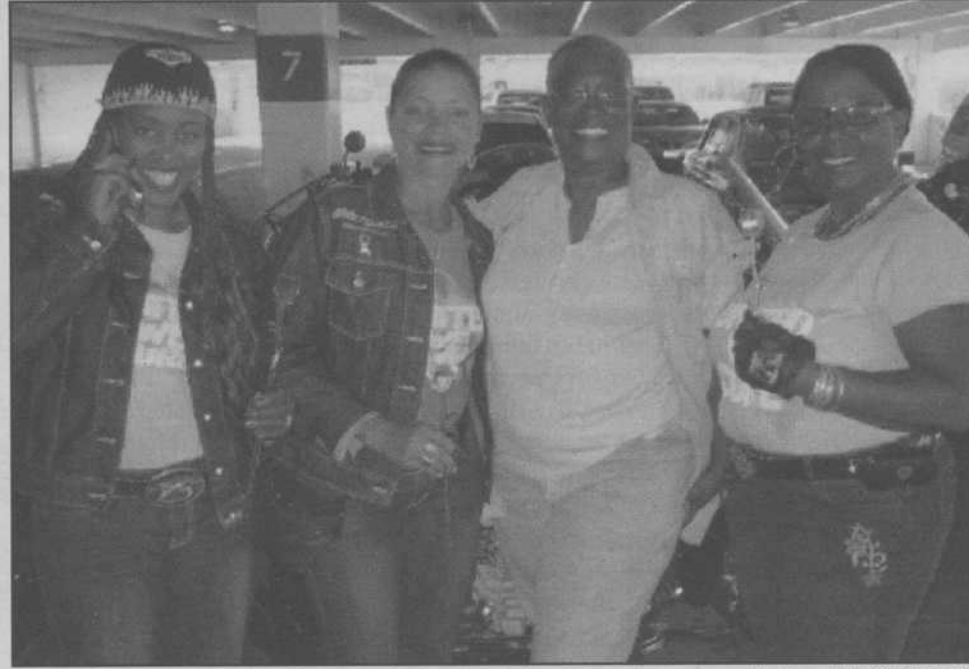


Photo special to Sentinel-Voice

Motorcycling enthusiasts united to fight breast cancer. Divas For a Cure on earlier trip to town met with Courage Unlimited Inc.'s Founder Sandra Jackson (2nd from R). Divas: (L-R) Secy. AJ Jemison, Founder Jan Emanuel and member Victoria Murphy.

in 1991 at the age of 49 and went through chemotherapy and radiation. After treatments, she was cancer-free for 12 years. In 2003, the cancer returned.

"After going through what I had to go through —

being and feeling alone, not having or knowing anyone else like myself (woman of color) to talk and relate to, I realized that I did not want anyone else to walk this journey alone and feel at a lost for someone to reach out to,"

said Beatty.

She stated that African-American women are dying faster than any other group with breast cancer. When asked why does she think African-American women are dying faster, she replied,

"because we are not informing and educating ourselves, not doing the self-exams, and we are not going in for regular mammograms."

Sisters' national branding campaign, "Stop The Silence," speaks directly to the nation's African-American communities' longstanding history of not discussing cancer and other life-threatening health concerns. The national slogan has been used in billboard and bumper sticker campaigns.

"When I was first diagnosed back in 1991, I initially went numb and could not hear anything else the doctor was saying to me after the word [cancer] was uttered. I just cried and cried. Later, I called my kids and friends and told them I was dying; I just automatically associated the word [cancer] with death. Fortunately, I had some really good doctors from Stanford, University. They asked if they could try this new procedure on me where

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Farrakhan: Black men in heightened state of peril

Special to Sentinel-Voice

In a speech that touched on global warming, environmentalism and Georgia's drought, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan drew parallels that as the Earth withers, so too do Black men, who have little to show for 452 years of bondage.

"Politics and the racial environment is threatening the human family," Farrakhan said. "But Black males, in particular, are endangered. Our attitudes, our ignorance, our savagery are all lending to a plan — a conspiracy to make the Black man, not endangered, but extinct. ...If God doesn't intervene, we will be extinct."

Marking the 12th anniversary of the Million Man March, Farrakhan spoke Tuesday at the Boisfeuillet



Nation of Islam minister Louis Farrakhan delivered a call to action to Black America during an address in Atlanta.

Jones Atlanta Civic Center for the 12th annual Holy Day of Atonement.

"God made a call for Black men to take a stand. ...[We] showed up for atonement and reconciliation," said Ishmael Muhammad, the Nation's national assistant minister. "We accepted

12 years ago the responsibility to be better men, better fathers and better husbands. It was a day never before experienced in our history."

Farrakhan spoke for more than two hours in a speech that touched on religion, hip-hop, politics and the perceptant minister. (See Farrakhan, Page 4)

Obama campaign builds larger Nevada presence

*By Kanika Vann
Sentinel-Voice*

"Obama!! Obama '08, Obama for President," were zealously and simultaneously shouted from the mouths of dozens of the Illinois Senator's biggest supporters on Saturday at the opening of his newly introduced North Las Vegas office located at 4080 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Suite 101 B.

This recent office opening, for the "Obama for America" campaign, comes a mere 96 days before the Nevada caucuses, as one of four new office openings throughout the state. It is his organization's attempt to further promote Obama's vision for America and make the campaign more accessible to the community.

The event was scheduled to be hosted by Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson and State Senator Steven Horsford, who failed to appear due to a previous engagement. But Horsford's absence was scarcely noticed, as the over 150 volunteers, supporters and neighborhood inquirers rallied,

mingled and intensely discussed politics for more than three hours.

"The enthusiasm of our volunteers is one of the greatest assets of our campaign," said National Campaign Manager David Plouffe.

And the supporters of the Obama campaign are enthusiastic indeed. They gathered to gain more support for the presidential hopeful, passing out flyers, endorsing future events, planning Obama house parties, giving speeches and hosting an old-fashioned American barbeque.

"Expanding our offices and staff is one way we can capitalize on the energy of our supporters and turn [the campaign] into a more grassroots organization," Plouffe said.

Many community figures came to show their support for Obama. Willie Mae Hunt, Obama supporter and NAACP-Las Vegas branch secretary said, "We're just looking for someone who'll implement change. We need a change in this country, and most of

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