

(Continued from Page 1) broadens peer-to-peer relationships. Community volunteerism is on the rise and support is granted from Clark County, elected officials, private donors, celebrities and the business community," said Washington. His affiliation with the program spans six years, he said adding that his vision for the camp is to "teach kids to socialize with diverse individuals in all types of environments, especially in schools



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Youth take some time out to evaluate their two-day visit in the mountains during the annual retreat to Lee Canyon.

amazed at the level of participation that occurs naturally. Participants perform without being forced. It's important who youth listen to. Fortunately, these kids have wonderful adults to emulate."

Steve Compan, juvenile court hearing master, has supported Camp Brotherhood/Sisterhood over the past three years. "Typically, when I see youth in juvenile court it's too late. I offer pep talks and appreciate the fact that marvelous individuals dedicate their lives to nurturing young campers. I am impressed to see smiles and happy youth involved."

Tanya Flanagan is founding president of the Las Vegas-Clark County Urban League Young Professionals, a membership organization that attracts the talents of 21 to 40-year-olds from various career fields to conduct community service projects and enjoy exclusive social networking events. The Young Professionals entered into a new relationship this year with Camp Brotherhood and Sisterhood to provide year-round mentoring to youth

who are age appropriate. "My organization provides mentoring for youth ages 14 to 18. Camp participants who are age appropriate will be invited to participate in our National Urban League youth mentoring program that will be launched this summer," Flanagan said.

The mentoring program will be ideal for a student like Myckayla Hicks. Hicks, a Legacy High School senior and first-time camper had great things to say about the camp. "I am having fun meeting new people here. Several activities create an interesting atmosphere," said Hicks adding that she enjoyed the chant challenge drills and was pleased that her Godfather Eric James, Young Professionals' vice president and camp adult counselor, encouraged her to attend. She is looking forward to attending camp next year as a youth counselor. Her passion is working with and teaching kids.

Ten-year participant, Aneisha Hall, is proud of her tenure with the program. "Benefits of involvement in-

clude developing myself into a more positive, articulate, confident and appreciative person," Hall said. She has experienced the progression from entering the program as a participant and transitioning into an adult staff. She's learned to become patient and virtuous as she teaches dance classes and demonstrates the importance of earning a higher education degree.

Shawina Tims marvels at working behind the scenes and serving to make a difference. Tims said, "It's critical to ensure that adequate planning and logistics are mapped out in order for this program to work." An array of life skills seminars, retreats and counseling sessions focus on topics such as sheros, heroes, etiquette, mentoring, inappropriate text messaging and the Internet, appropriate attire and leadership.

Camp Brotherhood and Sisterhood staff believes that this initiative is proactive as opposed to reactive. These social service, criminal justice, community volunteers, counselors and adult staff serve as innovative practitioners aspiring to the adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Abu-Jamal asks for another trial

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Lawyers for death-row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal on Monday asked a federal appeals court to reconsider its decision not to grant him a new trial.

Abu-Jamal was convicted and sentenced to death in the slaying of a Philadelphia police officer more than 25 years ago, a case that gained worldwide attention as the former Black Panther and radio reporter maintained he was the victim of a racist justice system.

In March, a three-judge panel of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Abu-Jamal, 54, must be given a new sentencing hearing. But the court did not throw out his conviction.

Robert R. Bryan, one of Abu-Jamal's lawyers, on Monday asked the panel and the full court to take another look. In his filing, he said the panel should have ordered a hearing on Abu-Jamal's contention that prosecutor intentionally excluded Blacks from his jury in violation of a later 1986 U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Prosecutors are also appealing the appeals court's ruling. Since Abu-Jamal's trial, activists in the United States and Europe have rallied around him as he has kept his case in the spotlight through books and radio broadcasts.

A Philadelphia jury convicted Abu-Jamal, who is Black, of killing White police Officer Daniel Faulkner in 1981 after the patrolman pulled over Abu-Jamal's brother in an overnight traffic stop.

Prosecutors say Faulkner, 25, managed to shoot Abu-Jamal during the confrontation. A wounded Abu-Jamal, his own gun lying nearby, was still at the scene when police arrived, and authorities consider the evidence against him overwhelming.

Abu-Jamal, born Wesley Cook, has argued in numerous appeals that racism by the judge and prosecutors corrupted his 1982 conviction at the hands of a mostly White jury.

Campers are exposed to frequent educational life skills and other socialization activities. Chanting drills are incorporated to build self-esteem and establish peer respect. Workshops focus on confidence-building and logical decision-making techniques. Skill enhancement exercises occur in classes such as: arts & crafts, dance and social etiquette. Young campers are fascinated by the attention given to them by prominent Las Vegas locals who visit and

Camp Brotherhood and Sisterhood has experienced a positive progression according to its founders. The camp's stock as a credible program has increased, attracting the likes of prominent Las Vegas Tony Gladney, vice president of diversity with Harrah's, Darryl Martin of Clark County, Clark County Family Court Judge William Voy and professional athlete

"I do not see participants of this camp in court," Voy said. "These are good kids who have great role models. I enjoy seeing the positive results that this camp creates in the lives of youths. I am

(Continued from Page 2) assassin's bullets left him paralyzed, Wallace was elected governor a fourth time in 1982 with the help of Black voters as he shifted to a populist message. Thurmond served in the Senate for 48 years, ultimately becoming the first Southern senator to hire a Black aide.

Thurmond also voted to make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday, a decision to which Helms was bitterly opposed. Helms led an unsuccessful filibuster in 1983, arguing the Senate rushed debate and had not reviewed thoroughly King's purported links to communism. "My decision was based on the facts, not on personality and certainly not on race," Helms wrote in

his memoir. Helms didn't worry much about what others viewed as race-baiting, mostly because every six years he proved he didn't need to change his ways to keep getting elected. He never won more than 55 percent of the vote, but his coalition of Republicans and so-called "Jessecrats" - conservative, White Democrats who voted for the GOP in federal elections - kept sending him back to Washington.

Through his political organization, the Congressional Club, Helms raised millions of dollars to benefit conservative candidates and produced negative television ads. The most famous ran in 1990 during his campaign against former Charlotte

Mayor Harvey Gantt, who is Black.

The spot showed a White man's hands crumpling a rejection letter from an employer, while a narrator lets the viewer know a racial quota made sure the job went to a minority.

"Helms operated as though African-Americans didn't vote," said Merle Black, a political science professor at Emory University in Atlanta. "He was unlike other politicians, who tried to expand their original basis of support. Helms never did that."

Correction
The correct email for SanKoFa Computer Networks is oguynnlamarjr@hotmail.com

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