



Las Vegas TRIBUNE

lasvegastribune.com

"I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire

COMPLIMENTARY
COPY

AFTER MULTIPLE TAKEOVER ATTEMPTS Las Vegas Tribune Back In Hands of Rightful Owners

By **Natasha Minsky**

A couple of Californians who arrived in Las Vegas several months ago gave the Las Vegas Tribune's founder and editor in chief, Rolando Larraz, reason to believe that with their talent and energy and new ideas, the Las Vegas Tribune could reach new heights. That was the exciting plan that permeated the newspaper's office and filled the staff with renewed expectation and hope.

These individuals were supposed to manage the company and the radio station and greatly increase the Las Vegas Tribune's revenue by increasing advertising sales. Not only did that not happen, but the newspaper, the company and the radio station have all suffered greatly — financially and in

other ways — as a result of this hopeful experiment that was intended to cause the Las Vegas Tribune to prosper and grow, but did not.

In a telephone interview with the newspaper's founder and publisher, Rolando Larraz, he stated that he strongly believes that it was a conspiracy to end the Las Vegas Tribune once and for all, backed by parties unknown. However, the conspiracy story, according to Larraz, does not start with this most recent episode of someone offering to "help" the only independent newspaper in the Las Vegas area.

It all started a few years back when former Clark County Recorder, Fran Dean, was, unfairly and illegally, ousted from her elected position in a political ma-

neuver by then District Attorney David Roger, who despised Dean.

Fran Dean then joined the Las Vegas Tribune as the result of a generous offer on the part of the newspaper's founder, Rolando Larraz, who became a Fran Dean defender and an advocate on her behalf during the county recorder/district attorney's legal war.

One day Fran Dean, who at that

time was working very closely with a group manipulated by political guru Sig Rogich, came to the office and told the founder that he was too old for the job and that he needed to turn the newspaper over to her and her people.

Up to this date it is still unknown what happened behind closed doors in regard to that suggestion, but it was the last day Fran Dean was seen

at the Las Vegas Tribune's office.

Some time passed, and last summer Larraz went to lunch with a friend who offered him a deal "too good to turn down": "I have someone interested in investing in your newspaper," said the friend. "You will get \$750 a week just to stay home; these people do not want you to be involved in the newspaper's

(See *Rightful Owners*, Page 4)

DiMarkco Chandler Is Not Affiliated With The Las Vegas Tribune In Any Way

By **Rolando Larraz**
Las Vegas Tribune

DiMarkco Chandler is not one of us and he will never be one of us. We have received information that this man has been passing

himself off as being with the Las Vegas Tribune, but nothing is further from the truth.

During an interview last week with the Editorial Board of the Las Vegas Tribune, a political candidate



DiMarkco Chandler

was interrupted by a telephone call from a man who identified himself as "DiMarkco, with the Las Vegas Tribune" who was soliciting advertising from the candidate.

DiMarkco Chandler, also known as DiMarkco Steven Chandler, was the operations manager of the Las Vegas Tribune from last October until he walked out of his own free will last January 30th after proving himself to be incapable of delivering on all the promises he made when he arrived at our organization.

Because he is no longer part of this newspaper, and much less part

(See *DiMarkco*, Page 4)

My Point of View

By **Rolando Larraz**

Most people have the tendency to blame anyone other than themselves when things go wrong — or even if they don't go as planned.

I try my best not to be that way. I do blame myself when something goes wrong; and I take responsibility for whatever goes wrong even if it is not really my fault. I don't mean to sound like a prosecutor or a cop who is always telling their victims that they need to man up and take responsibility for their actions, but it is the thing to do.

I do take responsibility for my actions and that is why I get irritated when one of them (prosecutors or cops) accuse me of not taking responsibility for something because I know for a fact that they (the police and prosecutors) never take responsibility for their actions, taking instead the position that they are close to being perfect, if not impeccably perfect, and God's gift to the world as well.

And in the case of DiMarkco Steven Chandler, AKA DiMarkco Chandler, I am not taking any other position: I believe that what happened is entirely my fault.

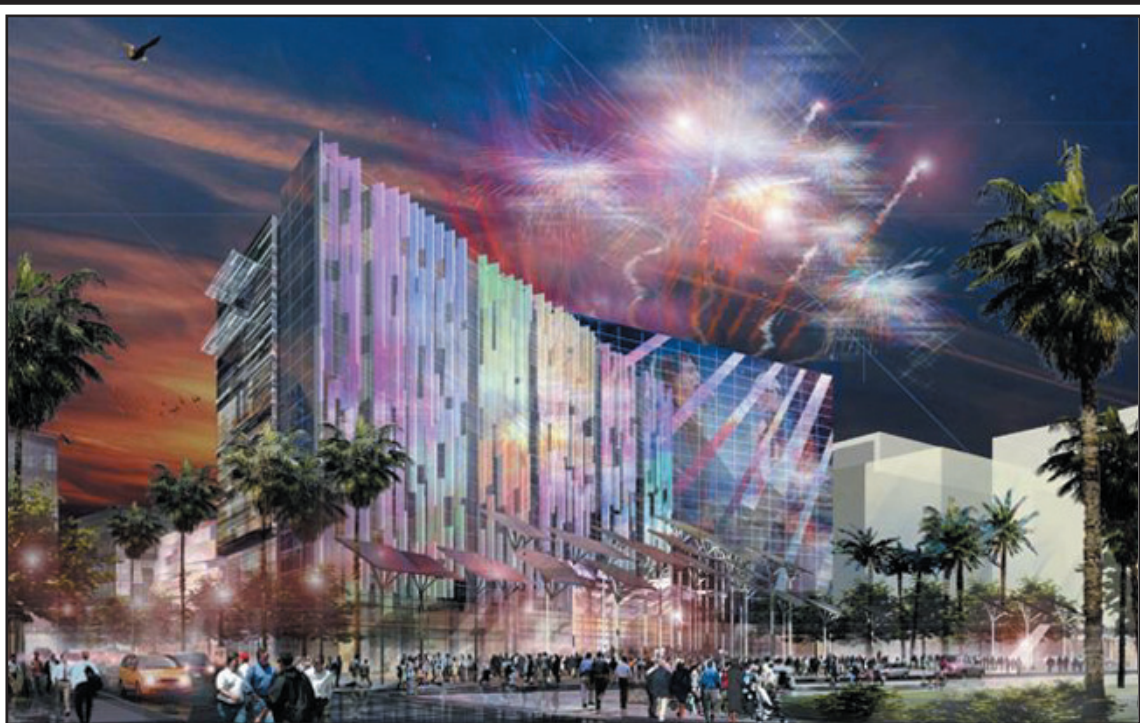
Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault, everything that DiMarkco Chandler did to destroy this newspaper is my fault — and I let him do it all, and more.

I have never given a key to this office to anyone; and most definitely, I have never given anyone a key to my private office or the password to my computer, or access to our bank information, but I gave it all to DiMarkco Steven Chandler, the man who left me almost on the street.

A sales supervisor named Jim Ricci can testify to that key business; he worked here for months and every day asked me for a key so he could come to work at any time without forcing me to come in to open the door for him; he never had the key, but DiMarkco did — with the only difference being that Jim had his own car and DiMarkco had a chauffeur named Rolando who picked him up and brought him to work and took him and his wife home at night.

DiMarkco's wife wrote a letter to someone (and by the way, I found out about it on my own) saying that "Not only DiMarkco let him (referring to me, of course) use a phone for his sister that is around \$300 and paid for 2 months, from then on he never has lent us anything for the

(See *My Point of View*, Page 2)



Finally, New Las Vegas City Hall Opens

New Las Vegas City Hall is now finished and open for business. The new City Hall has officially moved to 495 S. Main St. It is located between Main and First streets and Bonneville and Clark avenues.

New Campaign Launched In Nevada To Help Combat Human Trafficking

By **Sean Whaley**

Nevada News Bureau

CARSON CITY — A new campaign aimed at helping truck drivers and truck stop employees become more aware of how to identify and alert authorities to instances of underage children being forced into acts of prostitution was announced today by two Nevada organizations.

The Nevada Trucking Association and the Nevada Petroleum Marketers Association said the campaign will use materials developed by a national organization, Truckers Against Trafficking, to help truck drivers and truck stop employees combat incidents of human trafficking.

"The Nevada Trucking Association and its members are sickened by the evils of human trafficking," said Chief Executive Officer Paul Enos. "Truckers are the eyes and ears of our highways and truck stops, so we are asking truckers to notify the authorities when they see signs of these activities."

Peter Krueger association executive with the Petroleum Marketers, said: "The Nevada Petroleum Marketers Association is committed to make this effort our top priority for 2012. Our members can make a difference by spotting and reporting underage trafficking at truck stops across Nevada."

Kendis Paris, national director of Truckers Against Trafficking, said: "Having the support of Nevada



Assemblyman John Hambrick, R-Las Vegas, has pursued legislation aimed at strengthening Nevada's laws against human trafficking.

Nevada Mining Association Files Court Challenge To Mining Tax Initiative Petition

By **Sean Whaley**

Nevada News Bureau

CARSON CITY — The Nevada Mining Association has filed a court challenge to the initiative petition filed by Nevadans United for Fair Mining Taxes that could lead to a tax increase on the industry from 5 percent to 9 percent.

The complaint filed Wednesday in Carson City District Court alleges the petition "provides a legally insufficient and misleading

description of effect and creates hidden yet critical conflicts with a number of state and federal constitutional provisions, including contravening the basic requirement that property taxation in Nevada be uniform, equal and based on just valuations."

The petition to amend the Nevada constitution should be declared invalid, the complaint says. The petition was filed Jan. 31.

At the time, Vegas businessman

truckers and truck stops will prove vital to the work of Truckers Against Trafficking. This means that thousands more will become educated and equipped about the realities of domestic sex trafficking and how they can help end it. When the trucking and truck stop associations take the lead in their state it causes their membership to understand the importance of this issue and get behind it themselves."

The Nevada Trucking Association will distribute informational DVDs to its member companies to use during training, orientation and safety seminars. Wallet-size cards will also be provided to members with information about how to recognize trafficking and what to do when it is suspected.

The Nevada Petroleum Market-

(See *Trafficking*, Page 4)

Monte Miller, who heads up the group, said his proposal was not a tax increase.

"It simply raises the cap on mining taxes and leaves the issue on whether to raise the tax in the hands of the Nevada Legislature and governor," he said in a statement.

But the mining association complaint said the petition is misleading to voters.

"Proponents' assault on fair

(See *Mining*, Page 5)



Aria Hotel Has Parking Lot Fire

On Sunday at 3:40 p.m., the Clark County Fire Department was called for a car fire inside the Aria Parking Garage. Clark County responded with a high rise level response. This is a standard first alarm response to reports of fire in high-rise structures in the Las Vegas area. The Aria parking garage is 11 stories tall.

The first arriving Engine Company reported smoke coming from the mid level of the parking garage. Upon investigation, crews located a 1991 Toyota 4 Runner burning on the sixth floor of the parking garage. Aria employees had applied multiple dry chemical extinguishers to the burning SUV. The

owner of the vehicle was located, and the cause was determined to be mechanical and accidental in nature. There were vehicles on both sides of the burning SUV, but they were not damage by the fire. The vehicle was a total loss.

All parking structures in the Las Vegas area are equipped with standpipe systems, which are piping systems built into the garage, with outlets and connections for firefighting hoses and equipment. These systems act as a “fire hydrant” inside the parking garages. The standpipe system was not utilized on this fire, as the crews were able to hoist a fire hose into the garage for extinguishment.

DiMarkco

(Continued from Page 1)
of the Las Vegas Tribune family, he should not be allowed to represent himself as “with the Tribune”; and anyone who is faced with a situation similar to the one that that political candidate was faced with should notify him that they are aware that he is no longer with the Las Vegas Tribune.

The business relationship between the Las Vegas Tribune and

DiMarkco Steven Chandler AKA DiMarkco Chandler was broken for many obvious reasons that we no longer need to enumerate.

The public, advertisers and readers have already been informed that DiMarkco Steven Chandler, AKA DiMarkco Chandler, is not part of our company; and if anyone does decide to do business with him or any of his associates, or with his wife, Griselda Vicario, this news-

paper will not make good on any of his false promises and will not be responsible for any transaction between them.

My name is Rolando Larraz and I am the founder, publisher and sole owner of the Las Vegas Tribune. My office is located at 1555 East Flamingo Road, Suite 212, and my direct telephone number is (702) 272-4454, and I do answer all my telephone calls.

Rightful Owners

(Continued from Page 1)
daily operations, not even in writing your column. They will send you your check every week to your home.”

The friend declined to give Larraz the name of any of those friends interested in “investing” in the newspaper and of keeping him out of the daily operations, but told Larraz that he will give their names after he accepts the offer. Presumably, the offer of \$750 a week was to last “forever” or until Larraz dies, but Larraz thought that they would probably only pay him for a week, or maybe two at the most, and then shut down the newspaper and he would be out of business.

When Larraz told his friend that he would have his attorneys look over the offer and check it out, that was the last time that friend ever talked about his “investors,” which Larraz naturally assumed were individuals — once again — trying to shoot him down.

Then out of nowhere, last October, came these individuals from

California. Wanting to believe in the dreams and ideas of one particular man — although many along the years have had similar dreams and ideas — Larraz let his hopes lead the way and he trusted the man to resurrect the Tribune to more than its former glory. “Ideas without money are nothing but dreams,” Larraz said. “We all like to dream big, but how can those dreams go anywhere without the financial foundation to support them?”

Therefore, Larraz was not surprised when DiMarkco Chandler, the man with the big dreams and the “new” and “newspaper-saving” ideas walked out of the company with no notice at all — although he had threatened to do so on more than one occasion.

He did not, however, leave quietly, with dignity; he did not offer to discuss any leftover business so Larraz would know where things stood; he did not tell Larraz he was sorry things did not work out. Rather, he left as a child would leave a situation that made him cry,

flinging his prosthetic leg across the room — leaving the company in an even bigger financial mess than it has ever been in, shooting that final “mercy killing” bullet into Larraz’s heart.

Larraz is now back at the helm of the newspaper he founded fifteen years ago — which many powerful individuals, including US Sen. Harry Reid, have tried to exterminate — facing the bill collectors and the bills that Chandler has left in his wake, created during his tenure of attempting to “save” the Las Vegas Tribune.

On Larraz’s agenda this week is to publish the newspaper and honor the advertisers who may have paid for the online newspaper and the radio commercials, take care of the many \$200 loans he obtained to cover DiMarkco Chandler and his partner/wife, Griselda Vicario’s rent, and make arrangements with the landlord and utility companies to enable him to stay in business.

Larraz expects to be in much better financial shape in about 30 days.

Nevada To Receive Up To 33 Cents On The Dollar From \$50 Million Lehman Brothers Loss

*By Sean Whaley
Nevada News Bureau*

CARSON CITY — The state Board of Finance was told that Nevada now expects to receive between 30 and 33 cents on the dollar in recovery from a \$50 million investment loss when Lehman Brothers unexpectedly filed for bankruptcy in September 2008.

Nevada state Treasurer Kate Marshall said the state initially expected only 10 to 11 cents on the dollar when the firm filed for bankruptcy protection during the height of the nation’s financial crisis.

The estimate used more recently by the Treasurer’s Office was a return of 20 cents on the dollar, Chief Deputy Treasurer Mark Mathers told the board, which includes Marshall, Gov. Brian Sandoval and several other appointees.

A 33 cent return would mean more than \$16 million being returned to the state over the next two to three years, Marshall said. It does not include additional money that could be returned to the state as a result of separate litigation against a Lehman Brothers subsidiary, she said.

“I’m happy to report that based on the bankruptcy plan that was submitted and approved by a bankruptcy judge last year, based on conversations and analysis we’ve seen from major banks, and the amounts offered by those banks, we are now expecting a recovery rate in the range of 30 to 33 cents on the dollar for those holdings,” Mathers said.

“Based again on the analysis we’ve seen and the comments from folks who trade in these bonds every day, we will see the vast majority of these monies come back in the next two to three years,” he said.

Trafficking

(Continued from Page 1)
ers Association will use its weekly email bulletins, quarterly magazine and website to promote awareness. It will also make the materials available from Truckers Against Trafficking to its members.

Assemblyman John Hambrick, R-Las Vegas, who has pursued legislation aimed at strengthening Nevada’s laws against human trafficking, said: “I am very pleased that the Nevada trucking industry and the truck stop owners have entered the war against human trafficking. This scourge must be stopped. All of us have seen the media reports on children as young as eleven being prostituted by men who are making thousands upon thousands of dollars selling the bodies of our children. We now have two allies that can have a direct effective on fighting this war.”

In a telephone interview, Hambrick said there was anecdotal evidence presented at a press conference in Southern Nevada announcing the new campaign that it has been successful in combating the problem.

“I think there will be a new dynamic on fighting this problem,” he said. “Primarily now we’ll have people on the interstates. Many times society always thinks this is downtown, in an urban area, whether it is on the Strip or in Reno. But we always forget that these truckers are going all over the country.

“It’s a team effort,” Hambrick said. “We all have to pull together. Society has to pull together to solve this problem.”

The Department of Justice estimates that currently 100,000 to 300,000 of America’s children are at risk for entering the sex for sale industry each year. Human trafficking is estimated to be the second most lucrative crime in world with annual revenue of \$32 billion.

Raggio

(Continued from Page 2)
judiciary and often our champion. He clearly understood that a strong Nevada requires a strong and independent judicial branch of government. Sen. Raggio was an icon, a consummate statesman and one of the most knowledgeable and pragmatic legislators ever to serve the people of Nevada.”

Senate Secretary David Byerman: “Today, the Nevada Senate has lost a paragon of eloquence. We will miss Sen. Raggio, but the Nevada Senate — an institution that Sen. Raggio loved — has been molded by his wit and wisdom forevermore.”



*Nevada State Treasurer
Kate Marshall*

Ninety-nine percent of the creditors approved the bankruptcy plan, Mathers said.

There have been offers to buy the bonds from the state at a rate of 26 to 27 cents on the dollar, but it is more financially prudent to hold on to them and get the higher return, he said.

The \$50 million loss has resulted in less income being generated for a number of state programs, but Mathers said those funding reductions will be eased with the anticipated higher recovery on the investment.

The \$50 million loss was used as a campaign issue against Marshall in her successful re-election bid in 2010.

Marshall has said there was no warning ahead of time the firm would file for bankruptcy.

Nevada’s Lehman loss was only a part of \$3 billion in losses to states, counties and municipalities across the country when the firm filed for bankruptcy.

After the informational report to the Finance Board, Marshall said her decision to keep the Lehman *(See Settlement, Page 5)*



“La Verdad Nos Pondrá La Toga Viril” — Jose de la Luz y Caballero

LA VERDAD

Primer Periódico en Español de Nevada. Fundado en 1963.

After too long a hiatus, “La Verdad,” the first Spanish newspaper published in the State of Nevada, is about to be resurrected.

For editorial and advertising information call (702) 272-4454

The Las Vegas Tribune will keep you informed as to when this vibrant and necessary voice will become available to the Spanish community.