

** V * A FACTS

Eligible persons of age and relationship, should not let a lost birth certificate or marriage license discourage them from applying for veterans benefits, the VA advised today.

Officials pointed out that for sometime now, less formal proof of marriage or birth has been acceptable when this information is required to establish claims for higher benefits.

For example a veteran's or widow's (or widower's) certified statement of marriage is sufficient for applications for compensation and education benefits for veterans, widows (widowers) and orphan children provided neither veteran or spouse has been married before, and VA has no contradictory information on file.

Formerly, the agency required all statements of marriages and births to be supported by formalized documentary evidence.

A certified statement also is acceptable regarding the birth of a child of a veteran's marriage, and as proof

of age and relationship, VA officials said.

Q -- When is the deadline for veterans to apply for medical treatment at VA hospitals?

A -- There is no deadline, but priority is given to veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Q -- I lost my World War National Service Life Insurance policy. How can I obtain a copy?

A -- Request a copy from the Veterans Administration Insurance Center where you pay your premiums, either in Philadelphia or St. Paul, Minn. If you had a paid-up policy, direct your request to the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia.

Q -- I plan to move next month. How can I make sure the Veterans Administration sends my pension check to my new address?

A -- Notify the VA regional office where your records are filed, giving your claim number and your old and new address. You also should notify your post office, child of a veteran's department.

Focus on Seniors

Senior Citizens Name Weight Control Queen

A queen was crowned at the EOB Senior Center last week. Ethel Normand was named Queen Reducer of the weight control at a final weigh-in at the Center on June 27. Queen Ethel lost the greatest number of pounds in the group's recently concluded weight reduction program.

She wore a real crown at the festive luncheon marking the event--Rosie Nell Smith loaned the crown she wore as Queen of the Afro Unity Festival. Queen Ethel also received a nice cash award as the winner.

The weight control group is part of the Center's Health Club which stresses general well-being for the Senior Citizen members. Not all the members need to lose weight, but they enjoy attending the Friday morning meetings at the Center. Proper diet is discussed, suitable exercise, and other aspects of good health.

Members of the Health Club include Louise Young, Willie Holland, Essie Long, Mary Nichols, Katherine Vickers, Lucille Nelson, Hattie Matthews, Exie Thompson, Eva Carr, Herbert Clark, Ethel Normand, Hazel Geran and Rosie Smith.

A new three-month weight reduction program begins at a meeting July 11, 10 a.m. at the EOB Senior Center, 960 W. Owens. New members of the Health Club are welcome to participate in the program. Exchange of ideas is a good way to keep up interest in good health.

Everyone who ate the delicious luncheon prepared by Health Club members had a feeling of well-being. Some items weren't exactly low-calorie, but the weight reducers said they were going to get back with the program. Each one is determined to wear the queen's crown at the luncheon three months from now.

The Senior Citizen Transportation Program is now administered by the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County. Seniors needing transportation should call 648-5525 for this service. Call 24 hours in advance so that your trip can be properly scheduled. The program is not yet fully expanded and vehicles available are limited, so this advance notice is necessary.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY July 1975

THURS. **3** Prince Hall founds first lodge of Black Free Masons. 1775

FRI. **4** Frederick Douglass makes famous oration in Rochester asking "What to the American slave is your Fourth of July?" 1852

SAT. **5** Patrick Reason, Black artist-engraver for abolition movement, born. 1817

SUN. **6** Louis Armstrong, jazz pioneer, dies. 1971

MON. **7** Althea Gibson wins women's single tennis crown at Wimbledon. 1957

TUES. **8** Liberia declared independent republic. 1847

WED. **9** Eight black regiments help take Port Hudson in decisive action for Union control of Mississippi River. 1863

RUBY SAYS

by Ruby Duncan

This summer promises to bring many recreational opportunities for Las Vegas residents, and I strongly encourage youth and adults alike to take advantage of these opportunities.

The Operation Life Swimming Pool is now ready for its second season of cool, refreshing enjoyment. We will open the pool to the public as soon as we can find at least one lifeguard who is willing to volunteer his/her services. Anyone who has a Lifesaving Certificate and who would like to help us ensure the safety of our swimmers, is invited to call us to 648-0012 or come in to see us at 400 W. Jackson. The pool hours will be Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Operation Life Child Care Center is now accepting applications from working mothers with children 2-6 years. The Child Care Center, located at 341 and 401 Duchess in North Las Vegas, will provide quality day care for fees computed on a sliding scale according to each family's income. We plan to open the Center in approximately two weeks, so get your applications in soon.

A reminder to young people and to parents of children under 21 years of age: Operation Life's free Summer Lunch Program is going strong, now in its fourth week. The program will continue all summer, and provides free lunches to anyone under 21, Mondays through Fridays.

During the past week several welfare rights workers attended various conferences. Among them was Shirley McGee, who participated in the Drug and Alcoholism Workshop in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dorothy Gean Poole and Essie Henderson attended welfare rights workshops held in Seattle, Washington.

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(Note: camera-ready copy may be accepted until noon Tuesday, provided space is reserved prior to deadline.)

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Standard 15% agency fee is allowed if copy is camera-ready and payment is made within 15 days after billing date.

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