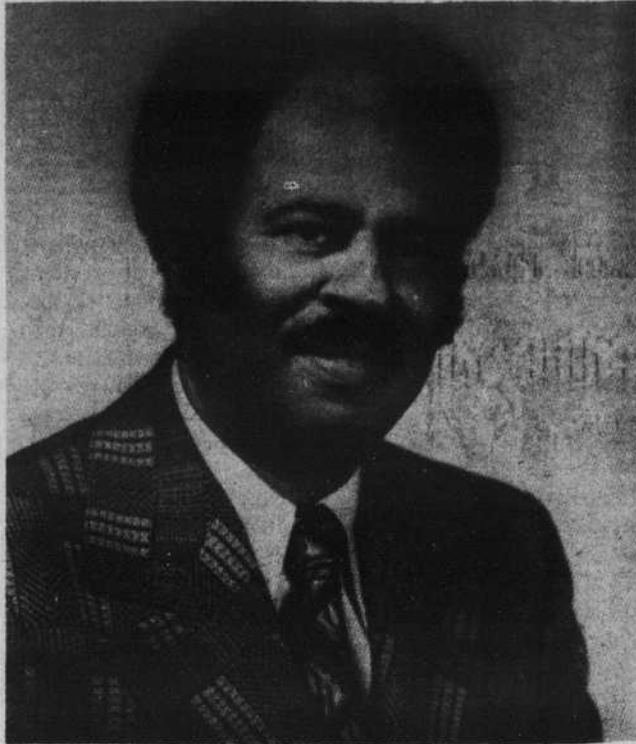


NAREB installs Thompson as President



JOHN D. THOMPSON

John D. Thompson, in his initial speech as President of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), warned federal, state and local officials that realists everywhere are "tired of playing second fiddle and receiving back door treatment" and that in the future, Realists are going to begin to apply some political pressure to get their share of the market.

His remarks were delivered at the installation banquet at the close of NAREB's five-day convention held recently at Chicago's downtown Hyatt Regency Hotel.

While admonishing his fellow realists "to adjust your sights to higher planes," Thompson pledged to be an available president-in-residence.

He stated that his priorities, during his term of office, will center on strengthening administrative processes, re-evaluation of goals and growth.

More than 800 delegates and guests at the banquet also heard guest speaker, James H. Blair, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, tell realists they must develop a whole new set of priorities.

In order to get into the mainstream, Blair said, they must develop the expertise to do their jobs as well as their counterparts. He promised, in turn, to "provide NAREB with technical assistance to implement a nationwide voluntary fair housing program."

Blair also urged realists to aggressively tap the economic resources available in the housing relocation programs of major corporations, many of whom have set up fair housing programs that assist employees in finding homes.

He announced that HUD Secretary Carla Hill has given him the responsibility of coordinating and implementing all minority enterprise activities within HUD. As a result, he said, he intends to expand the minority enterprise program by working with other federal departments and agencies to aid minority contractors, mortgage bankers, savings and loan associations, banks, as well as those in the real estate business.

Thompson, who is President-Treasurer of Vison Realty Co., Inc. and Board Chairman of Dolphin and Evans Title Agency (A subsidiary of Lawyers Title Co.) in Washington, D.C., succeeds Daniel W. Spaulding of Baltimore, MD. as President of NAREB.

Volunteers Needed

Want to give of yourself to help a deaf child? The Voluntary Action Center of Greater Las Vegas (VAC) is seeking two volunteers to work Thursday and Friday mornings as teacher's aides at a school for deaf children. If interested, contact the Voluntary Action Center at 382-5260.

The Voluntary Action Center also needs one person to work in the VAC offices on Wednesday afternoons. This involves helping to place other volunteers in agencies and answering the phones.

Only about five percent of all elderly persons require nursing home care, but those that do often find themselves alone. If you want to help, volunteer positions are open for people to read and write letters, and to work in arts and crafts with these Senior Citizens.

For more information about these and other volunteer opportunities, contact the VAC at 319 South Third Street, or call 382-5260.



COTILLION BALL -- The 4-H Hiland Highlighters provided an opportunity for many young people to experience many social skills during their Cotillion Ball held recently in the Western High School Little Theatre.

Pictured are members Ricky Anderson, left, Celeste Walker, Terry Hodges, Shirley Marshall, 4-H Program Assistant Gloria Springer, Lisa Griffin, John McCain, 4-H Leader Joan Walker, Von McCain, 4-H Program Assistant Virginia Griffin and Mrs. Ken Hill. Seated on the floor, Bob Lawson.

Arthur Cotton assumes directorship of SNDAC

If there is an isolated community within the teeming metropolis called Las Vegas, it is the Westside community. The earning power of most Blacks in the Westside is far below the national average. Many exist in poverty.

All too often when Blacks become successful they move away from their old neighborhoods for a richer, more fashionable environment. Thus, the kid growing up in the ghetto only sees other kids in the ghetto.

His exposure is limited. His motivation is nil. He doesn't identify with any middleclass Blacks because they've moved away. His scope of knowledge focuses on the luxury Cadillacs driven by pimps, their expensive clothes, and as often as not the ghetto kid emulates them. It is all he sees.

Arthur Cotton wants to change that. And, he thinks he can. He just assumed directorship of the drug abuse program for Blacks headquartered at the Economic Opportunity Board and funded by the Southern Nevada Drug Abuse Council.

Cotton is aware of the social and cultural isolation of Blacks in the Westside. He is aware that peer influence exceeds parental influence. He says the major problem of Black youths is their low self-esteem and their lack of identity.

He plans to expand his outreach counseling program to include the families of youths involved in drugs. "Parents must be aware of the importance of their roles in the lives of their offspring. Once kids hit the streets peer influence is almost overwhelming."

He envisions an expanded cultural awareness and the development of greater social skills to equip the Blacks to compete successfully in a highly organized world. "In Watts, a Black kid at least knows who Black artists and musicians are. In Las Vegas, most of the kids don't. They only know the pimps."

There are fewer jobs for Blacks. There is less encourage-

ment from parents to complete their education. Their world is limited and drugs become an outlet, and escape.

Cotton says drug usage in the Black community has reached epidemic proportions. "It is incumbent upon us to find new ways of treating this problem. The old ways simply aren't working."

In his favor is an influx of new Blacks which has sparked interest in a Black jazz society, and Black art. About the biggest thing in his favor, he thinks, is the new direction his program will take which will bring parents into the program. "It's going to take the kids and their parents working together to turn an already damaged lifestyle around."

Cotton is young, amiable, and determined. He has hopes, dreams, and a lot of expectation. But he has a limited staff and budget with which to work. The Southern Nevada Drug Abuse Council is in its annual fund-raising drive, hoping to net \$250,000 which will be matched with federal monies to continue the fight against drug abuse in the Las Vegas area.

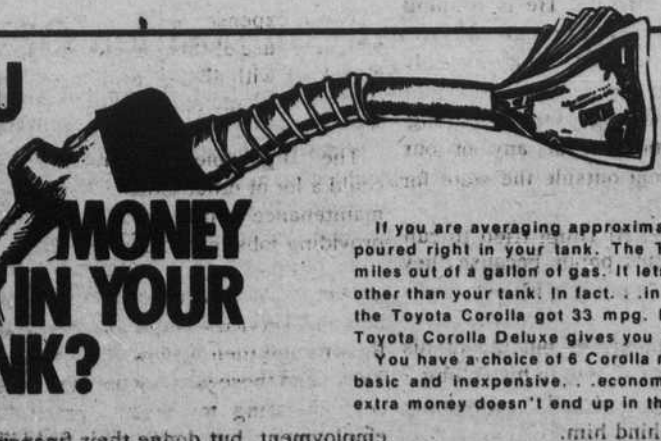
The EOB Drug Abuse Program is just one of the agencies funded by SNDAC. If it is to continue, and expand, it needs your help. Won't you send your contributions to the SNDAC Office, Box 808, Las Vegas.

library group meeting in Sparks

The 1975 annual meeting of the Nevada Library Association will be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, Nevada, Sept. 25-27, 1975. The theme of the convention is "Be Community Wise."

Some of the convention highlights are programs on newspaper indexing, Nevada Indian culture, state-wide library information and inter-library services, and children's programming.

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