

The Publisher Speaks



It isn't very often that a newspaper can claim that it has accomplished something for the community it represents. The Voice today makes that claim. For the first time in the history of Las Vegas, the black community will have the ability to purchase a ticket to a major Strip show.

The ability to see a Strip show will not be at the whim of a "friend" at one of the hotels. It will not be due to an exorbitant tip paid to a showroom captain. It will not be because someone knows someone and can get you into a show.

The ticket can be bought right in the Westside at the Voice office. All first run shows at the Aladdin can now be purchased at the Voice. The Voice pushed and pulled and finally made a breakthrough.

We have found in past years that a local black doesn't see Strip shows. The reason is that the reservation clerks are always busy. So one must go in person, and then they are always sold out.

Likely some of the problems were not race related, but we're not sure. From now on, there can be no reason for one of us not to see the shows, if we can afford them.

We would like next to have some of the other Strip hotels start the same procedure. Why not. A ticket to a Dodger ball-game can be bought in black community areas around Los Angeles. Tickets to a Broadway show can be bought at places other than Broadway.

The next thing we must do is show the boys out on the Strip that there is a demand for the tickets. Please support our efforts. The Voice will run as a public service a list of the tickets that will be available.

We feel good about this accomplishment and hope you do, too.

The Las Vegas Voice has IMPACT!

LAS VEGAS VOICE

NEVADA'S BLACK COMMUNITY WEEKLY
"An Uninterrupted Publication Since 1963"

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICATED to the INTEREST and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE for BLACK CITIZENS of the STATE OF NEVADA

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BLACKS WHO WANT TO FIGHT CRIME BY BLACKS AGAINST BLACKS MUST NOT BE INTIMIDATED.

DR. CHARLES COBB
DIRECTOR
COMMISSION FOR
EQUAL JUSTICE

WE ARE VICTIMS BY OUR OWN HAND, AND UNTIL WE GET ANGRY ENOUGH TO BITE THE BULLET, NOTHING WILL CHANGE.

ROOSEVELT DUNNING
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER N.Y.
POLICE DEPT.

Just the FACTS

At the present time, the West Las Vegas area is being subjected to various economic development programs, workshops and seminars. All are either state or federally funded. These programs, workshops and seminars are designed to enlighten those who are interested enough to attend, on the proposed economic development of this area of the city. But it seems that the program isn't getting anywhere. The attendance of members of the community is not what should be expected. There are approximately 35,000 blacks in Las Vegas and North Las Vegas, but only 40 or less attend the programs. Why? Is it a lack of interest on the part of the black community who will benefit from any economic development that will assist the black community? Or is it the organization of the programs that turn-off the community?

This is a chance for the West Las Vegas area to catch up with the rest of Las Vegas, it might take years for the West Las Vegas area to be as desirable as other sections of the city, but only through planning and community cooperation will this be accomplished. The programs designed to bring financial aid to the area are good. If they succeed, those in Carson City and Washington will extend additional aid to the area. We the residents of the black community must make sure that we get our share.

Another fact to consider in connection with the economic development of the West Las Vegas area is that black businessmen are beginning to reappear to open new business that meet the communities needs. To this date there are two new business that are black owned and black operated that affect this area. Fashion West and The Fox Trapp. Both of these business ventures are contributing to the community. They will only succeed if the black community patronize them. This is the best economic development there is, and it is our responsibility to give our business and money to our people who have goods and services that we need.

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

BANKS BIAS AGAINST BIVIN

Unfortunately too many big white owned banks are bad news for blacks and others trying hard to better themselves in a constructive manner in our society. Banks and blacks might debate the meaning of unemployment statistics, but the facts are that the country does not have enough jobs for all the people who want a position.

In addition, there is underemployment-skilled people who cannot find jobs at the highest level they are capable of performing. This has an effect on the entire job market. When people take substitute jobs for which they are over-qualified, there is a crowding downward.

The blacks who are at the bottom rung of the job ladder get no jobs at all. Eugene A. Bivins, III, Penn State student, has a bigger beef to the banks. Brother Bivins says he can't get a government approved program loan for his education from a bank. Following my article on Pay for Post Secondary Education, Bivin wrote to me. Secondary Education, Bivin wrote to me.

Bivins writes, 'Since 1974 I have tried to get a simple application to apply for a student loan.' A persistent Bivin finally obtained a financial aid form from the Penn State Office of Student Aid.

But the problem for this black doctoral student still was not solved. Bivin has been to about ten banks as of February 28, 1977, the date of his letter. to obtain the application blanks for government backed student loans.

'They all cite a different policy' in refusing him. In Philadelphia, at the Industrial Valley Bank where Bivins deposits his own few dollars he quotes, 'We could not . . . loan funds at seven per cent when we had to pay ten per cent or better in funds we had to borrow' (in 1974).

"Every business in the market-place has to make a profit to survive." These remarks rang to Bivin's ears as racist sounds. Because a white student in his class remarked in February that "Industrial Valley Bank is asking me if I don't want to renew my loan . . . but, I'm a senior . . . I'm graduating . . . I don't need it."

It seems Brother Bivin has bumped into another hidden bias of banks. The racist undertones destroy even the objective of well intentioned social programs.

Eugene S. Bivins, III want a head count by racial break down on student loan applications
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