

The Publisher Speaks



The Las Vegas Voice is a community oriented newspaper. Our foremost concept is communication with the Black community.

It will not be used as a gossip sheet, but will be used to inform the community. Our slogan means exactly what it says, "To Criticize Is Normal, Solution Is The Ultimate."

But in saying this it means that the Black community must identify that we are the only source for implementing and making people aware of what is really going down for and against the Black community.

A great number institutions have formulated plans to increase the number of Blacks on their employment rolls.

A great number of institutions have outlined plans for the economic development of the Black community.

Politicians have made all sorts of will promises, and appointed officials have offered more of the same. But if any of these things have been accomplished, they have been done with such subtleties that we are not able to see them.

There has been no significant increase in the number of Black minorities on public payrolls. There has been no economic development within the confines of the Black community. And we cannot find any political promise, of any significance to the community, that has been kept by either an elected or appointed official.

We will admit that there may have been some promises kept that, were made to individuals, but these do not generally benefit the overall community.

It is up to us as a people to make these politicians accountable to Black community.

The Voice would like to call upon you the public to support us in our fight. If you have valid information that can be substantiated, we ask that you call and make it available to our office.

At this time we would like to express to all agencies or individuals, discovered not functioning properly for the development of the Black community, the area of employment, housing, economic development, education, etc. That we hereby officially declare WAR.



Just the FACTS

As everyone knows, the bus system in Las Vegas leaves something to be desired. I have ridden several of the bus lines, and know how they go. The lines on the Westside run every hour and run in a circle, every other hour going to opposite way. From downtown to the VOICE Newspaper office can take 10 minutes if you catch the bus going down "J" St., but the opposite hour you take a bus going down "D" St. and then it takes 40 minutes to reach the VOICE office, unless you get off at "D" and Bonanza and walk over to "H" St.

I also rode the bus to Charleston and Bruce Strs. The trip from downtown to the corner of Bruce and Charleston took 40 minutes, and the trip from Bruce and Charleston back downtown took 10 minutes, because the route is a circle.

Now, I know there are areas of Las Vegas that are impossible to reach by bus. Buses run down parallel streets about 2 or 3 miles apart, so what happens if you live between those 2 lines? You either walk a long distance to reach a bus line, or you own a car. If you are unable to drive, or afford a car, you either walk, stay home, or depend upon friends to drive you wherever you want to go.

I think the bus system should be revamped to cover some parts of the city it is almost impossible to reach by bus.

The Clark County Community College is another place that takes a 40 minute bus ride to reach and only about 15 minutes to get back to town. That alone discourages some people from signing up for classes there.

Don't you think it is time for our elected officials to try to correct some of the things in the Greater Las Vegas area that need looking into?

The Westside needs a Police Sub-Station; the street lights need to be placed where they are needed; and the transit system needs to be revamped.

I drove down Okey Blvd. from Las Vegas blvd. So. to Eastern and found street lights on Las Vegas Blvd., Maryland Parkway, and

Easter, with no other lights on the entire stretch. No wonder the crime rate is so bad in Las Vegas.

Let's get on these and see what can be done!!

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

In a move more reminiscent of the Republican Herbert Hoover years, President James Earl Carter has called for a cut in food production. With crossed eyes on inflation the peanut planter from Plains has proposed a 20 percent cut in wheat acreage next year.

This is a calculated move to force farm prices higher and put more profits in the farmers pockets. The Carter Administration also is considering a 10 percent cut in acreage planted in feed grain -- corn, sorghum, barley and oats. This decision to limit production of food for poor people is the first since the Nixon years. The total number of acres to be taken out of production would be 20 million. Enough land to provide food to feed every hungry black baby in the country.

In addition Carter is calling for Congress to authorize the creation of six-million metric ton international reserve. Also, the administration would use existing authority to create a farmer-held reserve of wheat, feed grains and rice totaling another 24 million to 29 million tons. Both the farmer lock up reserve and the international reserve food would total about 35 million tons, which is enough to fill U.S. needs for about two and one-half months.

All of this to put more money in white farmer's pockets. President James Earl Carter, Jr. was elected on the backs of the Black American voters, but it is difficult to determine his devotion to their needs. Unemployment among black youths 17-21 reached its highest summertime rate ever recorded this year.

Among blacks, there were 100,000 more jobless youths this year than last year. President Carter's Labor Secretary Ray Marshall has called the figures on unemployment among black youths "most disturbing." However, neither Mr. Marshall nor Mr. Bergland, Agriculture Secretary is calling for a budgetary expenditure choice between pumping up food prices for the benefit of a few white farmers and providing jobs for deserving young blacks and other poor people.

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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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ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ • One year \$13.50

(Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permt pending at Las Vegas, Nevada.)