

The Publisher Speaks



I have been trying to get all of the elected officials to support the Las Vegas VOICE Newspaper in every way that I know how. The news staff is doing all they can to serve the community and the needs that is before the community. Some of our non-leaders in the community have given us great support.

This year we will be trying to cover all of the local sports, the local meetings, and giving the people more things to read, of what is going on in the community.

We are now in the process of expanding the Las Vegas VOICE Newspaper. We would like to ask if there is anyone who would be interested in writing columns in the paper or working full time as a journalist for the VOICE.

With a complete staff, I know that we can cover the local, state, and national news. We would like to have more people contributing their news to the paper prior to noon on Tuesday.

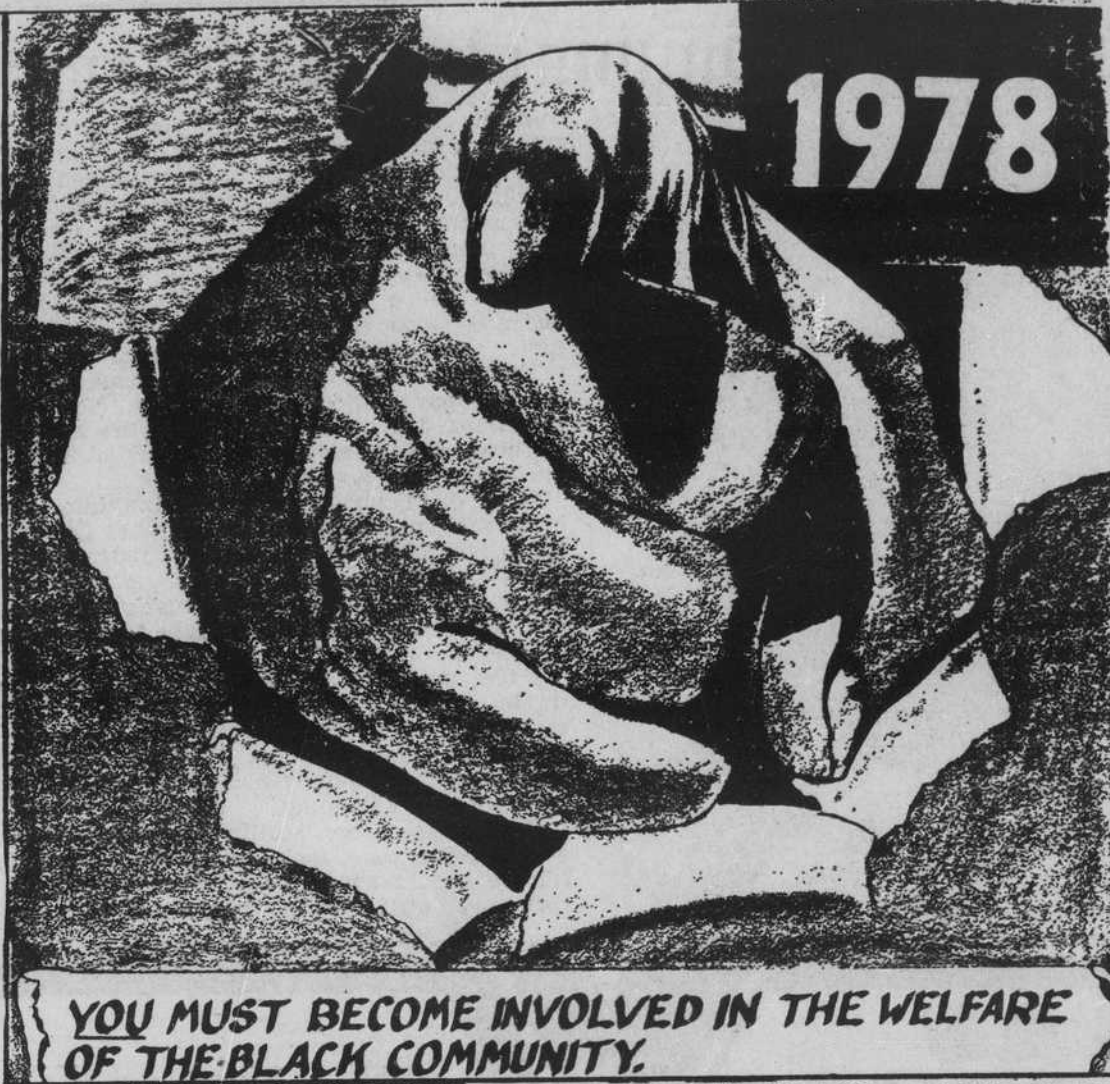
What the VOICE would like to say is that the only person that can run the CETA program, would be Leo Johnson, so the VOICE Newspaper would ask, in all sincerity that Leo Johnson would be the head of CETA. The Board of Directors of CETA should want to keep Leo Johnson as the head of that program, because he is more qualified than anyone they could get to run CETA and keep it together. Because he is soft spoken, doesn't mean that he is not qualified for the job. There should be no reason that they should picket CETA and none of the other programs to keep those people working.

The way the program is being headed is that all of them will be across town. On all of your federal grants and all of the federal money that has been given, supposedly for West Las Vegas, all are being controlled by the City Commissioners, by the State, Bob Goodman, and every other white that has anything to do with politics.

In the beginning all the program was supposed to have been put together by qualified blacks, but when the program finished being put together by them, it is controlled by white, and our qualified blacks are still left without controlling power over their program.

From the little money that has been spent in West Las Vegas as to all of the money received for West Las Vegas we should be lit up over here like downtown Las Vegas. We have bad lighting conditions on streets, we have more policemen kicking people's doors down, more false arrests than any other part of Las Vegas. Now, it should be looked into and our elected officials should form a committee to deal with the problem that we are having to live with in our community, because we sure have enough money to pay for it.

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1978

YOU MUST BECOME INVOLVED IN THE WELFARE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY.

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

Like vultures preying upon the poor populace of the world, the 13 nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) set higher oil prices in Caracas, Venezuela. Saudi Arabia, biggest of the bunch, is so full of money it is sinful.

The tiny country of eight million people produces 8.5 million barrels of oil a day! Even at the old price of \$12.70 per barrel for Saudi Arabian crude oil their bellies are bloated. Still their billions of bucks do not find their way back to Black America.

Price increases called for by Saudi Arabia's sister country in the past have convinced President James Earl Carter, Jr., to call for an increase in domestic coal production. But an increase in coal mining and/or striping with its corresponding jump in black lung disease cases will not solve the energy crisis. Nuclear energy is not only a choice but a necessity to nullify higher energy cost.

Carl E. Bagge, National Coal Association president, has said, "The supply of coal today is limited by demand not by production. Regardless of our short-term labor troubles, America has grown accustomed to using fuels which were cleaner, cheaper and handier (than coal). At the time, we weren't concerned that these fuels were scarcer than coal in the long run. Today, the long run has arrived."

Black Americans and others depending on fixed incomes for survival cannot stand an ever increasing fuel and food bill. While three out of four working whites receive a fixed salary, four out of five working Black Americans and an even higher proportion on welfare are locked into this uncomprehensibly costly position. An ever increasing fuel bill to placate play boys and girls in the save the environment fields is too expensive for most blacks and senior citizens on fixed incomes.

Petroleum plays an important role in increasing food production which in terms increases the standard of living for people all over the world. Using petroleum for increased food production and providing plastic instruments and materials at a lower cost is far better than pumping up gasoline and heating prices.

The tearing up of our country by strip mining and tarring and feathering our beaches to beat the Arabs at finding holes in the ground is not the only economic choice.

In 1976, 191 billion net kilowatt hours of electricity was generated by nuclear energy production. This was 9.4 percent of the country's energy needs. For that year alone, nuclear energy production accounted for an estimated equivalent oil savings of about 325 million barrels of oil or 90 million tons of coal.

Nuclear energy needs safeguards, but we need to move on to using it to save our economic selves.

REDISTRICTING

New voting districts have been voted upon, and accepted, but Senator Joe Neal and Dr. James B. McMillan, President of NAACP, are unhappy with the district chosen.

Senator Joe Neal says that the district chosen was a plan out of the growth of the Black area. The areas were based on persons per dwelling unit on an estimated population from a 1976 traffic analysis zone, which showed an average of 2.5 persons per dwelling unit. Senator Neal states there is an average of 4.5 persons per dwelling unit on the Westside. Therefore, if the districts are based on population, the Westside has twice the population per area as other districts of the same area.

Senator Neal and Dr. McMillan feel that the district selected is the most offensive to the black area. They have four objections to the area chosen.

1. The incumbent, Sam Bowler, is in an area that has a four year term. This means that it would be 1980 before anyone could be elected to replace Mr. Bowler, if it was possible to place a black in the district. Also, in 1980 there will be a new census and a new redistricting. That alone could knock out a Black County Commissioner.

2. The redistricting was based on 2.5 persons per dwelling unit while the Westside has 4.5 persons per dwelling unit. Therefore the district, as approved, would have approximately 4,000 more people than other districts, but those people are not all black, so that would not guarantee a Black County Commissioner.

3. These lines were drawn away from the population trend, which should have gone Eastward into North Las Vegas, and Westward between Bonanza and Cheyenne.

4. The area is forced to reapportion, but was not meant to deny representation.

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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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