

## Las Vegas Sentinel Introduces

# Black Politics In '80

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The total political process will soon come into play pervading all aspects of society. Voters will be called on to elect a number of people who will interact to determine who gets what, when and how. This, of course, will not be done without struggle for power. It's the nature of the beast. This issue of the LAS VEGAS SENTINEL covers many areas involved and the impact politics has on the black community. It's a topic that bears close scrutiny. Our votes will help to determine our destiny. Clearly, nothing else will. The following, extracted

from the book "Nevada Politics," amply describes the role many have in the political process. We are grateful for the permission granted by its writer, Dr. Albert C. Johns, Professor of Political Science-UNLV, to share its philosophy with our readers:

### ONLY PEOPLE ARE POLITICAL

If it is people who make love and war, it is also people who make the political wheels turn. However, all people do not pull equal amounts of political weight, even

though the concept of equality under the law is a democratic ideal. It is obvious that political decision-makers, those who are willing to face the electorate and win or lose, have more political muscle than people who are less involved. What degrees of political involvement are possible? First there is total commitment, where one devotes large amounts of time and money in order to have an important say in decision-making. Not very many people qualify on both counts.

Those who contribute large sums to political

campaigns usually do not have time to commit themselves fully to political decision-making. In the first place, they often are so busy earning the money to donate that they cannot afford to spend their total time in politics. Those who spend their total time in political commitment can rarely afford to contribute large sums of money. Therefore, it would appear that two kinds of power have evolved.

It may be that two kinds of people are necessary to bring about decision-making in government: those who have the

money and are willing to spend it in helping other people get elected, and those who have time to campaign and win offices in government but do not have the time to earn money to pay for their own campaigns. While there are always some exceptions to such rules, it would appear that in the vast majority of cases, the situation cited would prevail. The result is that the decision-makers must have someone behind them helping them win office, and that someone in the background may have as much or even more influence than the decision-maker.

## Political Profile

# Chaney Seeks Re-Election

Lonie Chaney, incumbent, Assemblyman, District number 7 is seeking a 4th term to the Nevada State Legislature. He has filed for re-election. Lonie, a 25 year resident of Nevada, remains strongly aware of what the economic indicators signify for the voters of his district. His effectiveness in the legislature has been enhanced by his service as Chairman of the powerful Health and Welfare Committee, Chairman of the Clark County Delegation (1979 session) past member of the Commerce Committee, Election Committee, and the Taxation Committee.

During Chaney's 3 session tenure, he has supported legislation for the Senior Citizen Complex, Mental Health Community Programs, Disclosure of Generic Names for Prescription Drugs, expanded Medicare, repeal of sales tax on food and job Programs for youth. Lonie is the sponsor of the Sex Education Legislation which was the basis for much needed sex education in the public schools.



CHANNEY

Chaney is an advocate for programming which will have positive impact on the voters of District number 7 during the immediate future which is forecast as gloomy. He supports expanded Health and Medicare Programming and fully recognized the adverse impact of impending economic cutbacks and restrictions imposed by a severe economic depression which Chaney says, "is not a scare story, but an unpleasant and certain future reality."

"My focus," says Chaney, "is on the future, and my District 7 constituents will understand my philosophy of 'pre-planning for self-preservation' when I say, only the strong will sur-

vive the economic crisis which promises to bring a disproportionate amount of economic pressure upon the ordinary working man during the '80s."

I strongly support the MX Missile Programs and the billions of dollars which will be spent on program development over the next several years. The program can be an economic salvation for the residents of Southern Nevada. That is why I support it with the reservation that Nevada residents be trained and hired to do the bulk of the work which the MX Missile Program will generate over the next decade.

Chaney advocates and will seek avenues to diversify the economic structure of the area by attracting clean industries such as light manufacturing, warehousing, etc. This type of economic restructuring will bring more good paying jobs to the voters of District 7 as well as other Nevadans.

Chaney also recognizes the need to broaden the means of educating the public in

regards to preventive medicine as a way of health preservation rather than a crisis intervention type method to which we have become accustomed. Respecting the fact that health care costs are increasing rapidly, we can help ourselves and protect our health without spending additional dollars if reasonable Preventive Medicine programming includes such factors as pre-natal care, parenting, expanded first-aid facilities, personal hygiene etc., much of which can become part of the public school curriculum without costly expansion of teaching staff.

Chaney supports the expansion of Restitution — not prison, as a reasonable and effective solution to controlling crime. "Prisons in their present state, do not reform" says Chaney "they make people worse and often, the prison experience delays and intensifies the threat to the public when a criminal is released... We need to turn to new solutions rather than warehousing as many criminals as possible."



SARANN KNIGHT

## Sorority Honors Sarann Knight

Sarann Knight Preddy Auxiliary; Chairman, Board of Directors, Radio KCEP; Board member, Operation Independence; member of the Clark County Democratic Central Committee; Area Phi Delta Sorority, Inc. Coordinator, 1980 Health Fair and Basileus, Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Rho Chapter. She is a member of the Second Baptist Church but has been known to give generous support to worthwhile programs or projects of other churches just as she is known to be the first to volunteer her time and efforts to any worthy community when the need is indicated.

Sarann Knight Preddy is a dedicated community activist whose name has become symbolic with community involvement. She presently serves as 1st Vice President of the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and as Chairperson of the NAAACP Women's (See Sarann, page 8)