

Education

Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP) to Organize LV Chapter

Las Vegas will be "on stage" Thursday night, May 2, at the Heritage Hall, Nucleus Plaza, 932 W. Owens, when representatives from the National Assault on Illiteracy Program will be on hand to help organize a local chapter of AOIP.

The meeting will be conducted by Dr. Calvin W.

Rolark, Chairman of the Black Media Inc., Cooperative, who works closely with the over-all project; Winnie Palmer, a Las Vegas resident and national chairperson of the Advancer subcommittee - a regional project of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa; Carrie Haynes, Inter-organizational Liaison for AOIP;

and, Co-Publishers for the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice Ed and Betty Brown.

Invitations have been forwarded to a number of local representatives of organizations, institutions, businesses, professionals, and other individuals to attend this initial meeting.

Next week's issue of this newspaper will carry an extensive coverage of the entire AOIP program. The enclosed copy of the National Black Monitor is an example of the many projects included in the AOIP program, along with THE ADVANCER- portions of which are included in this week's Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice.

On this page is a copy of a news release submitted by the U.S. Dept. of Educa-

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



NEWS

FOR RELEASE
Friday, June 22, 1984

Wilma Bailey—(202) 245-8907

(An exact single-spaced version)

Secretary T. H. Bell announced today that the Department of Education has established a continuing working relationship with the Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP) in a concerted effort to carry out the National Adult Literacy Initiative announced by President Reagan last September.

AOIP is a framework which allows national Black organizations to work together to encourage Black Americans to improve their literacy skills. They have united to focus their considerable strength and expertise on youth and adult literacy.

In a recent workshop, members of the AOIP, who represent national Black organizations, and senior Department officials met to discuss strategies for solving problems of illiteracy in the Black community. AOIP has called the workshop an historic example of cooperation between the Federal government and Black Americans.

The Secretary this week is sending to all 50 State governors letters emphasizing that one of the goals of AOIP is to work with literacy groups at the State and local levels and to organize State and local AOIP chapters.

In the letter, the Secretary said, "Attention must be given to the unique aspects of the problem of illiteracy among Black Americans for whom the rate of functional illiteracy has been estimated at approximately three times that among White Americans."

As the Department's Regional Offices coordinate plans for involving Federal employees in literacy programs, they will call upon the resources of AOIP. The Secretary also informed the governors that the Department's regional staff will be available, upon request, to assist the States in working with organizations on literacy efforts.

AOIP receives invitations to participate in meetings and conferences that address the National literacy efforts and meet with members of Congress about the level of funding for Black Americans in the Adult Education Act.

Secretary Bell said, "The Department will continue its cooperative efforts with AOIP as they begin their community-building approach toward literacy promotion. Literacy affects too many of our citizens for one group to tackle it alone. These organizations represent a valuable source of volunteers for literacy."



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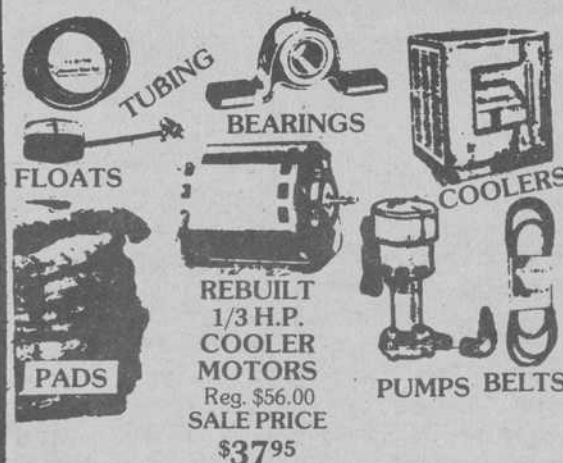
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tion, which gives an overview of the AOIP Program, and the attention given to it by that agency.

For further details on AOIP and the forth-coming meeting on May 2, contact Winnie Palmer...phone 454-0482.

Health Appraisals Available

Those who completed the Clark County Health District health risk questionnaire during the health fair can receive their appraisal during any one of the following information sessions at the District Health Center, 625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas: Thursday, April 18, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Health educators will be on hand to interpret.