

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



Your West Las Vegas Library and You

West Las Vegas is one of eight libraries located in Clark County. The address of the library is 1402 N "D" Street or on the corner of Jackson and D Street.

The library is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

In the library there are many books on the arts and sciences as well as biographical, autobiographical, references, fiction and non-fiction.

Additionally, there are soft back books, hard back books, magazines, daily newspapers as well as children's books.

The library has a computerized system of checking books out and a stationary sidewalk book depository to receive returned books. Also there are special books that prepare one to take various kinds of tests.

A \$19 Million Plus Library Building Program

Last fall the voters of Clark County approved a \$19 million library bond to enlarge and construct additional libraries in Clark

County. At the time the bond issue was placed on the ballot, no details were given relative to where these libraries would be built and at what cost.

The Las Vegas NAACP Branch, the Minister's Alliance and the Pastors Conference of Southern Nevada are demanding that equity and fairness prevail to the extent that West Las Vegas Library receive its fair share of the taxpayers approved \$19 million bond money.

We do not want anymore than what any other branch library receives. Additionally, a street site must be selected that is heavily trafficked both by foot and auto traffic. The patrons that use the West Las Vegas library represents all races of people, Blacks, Whites, Spanish speaking Americans and Asians.

The West Las Vegas Library Now Has Black History Exhibits

During the month of February, every year, men and women, boys and girls from throughout Clark County visit the library to see

the Black History Exhibits.

The library believes that these exhibits serve as education supplements to those who did not learn in school about the great contributions made by Blacks in American History. All Black parents should not miss the opportunity to take their children to the library to see these exhibits. If these parents do not teach their children about the struggle that Black people made in their quest for human dignity and survival, they will never know or appreciate the results of their struggle.

Clark County School District will be asked to allow the children who attend school in West Las Vegas to visit these exhibits for their own information, appreciation and education.

Blacks Are Experiencing A Reading Crisis, Blacks Fail to Read

The charge has been made by some that Blacks are not making use of the West Las Vegas Library. Although many people visit the library every day reading magazines, newspapers and reference books the only patrons that are counted by the computer are those that check out hard back books.

We do not agree with the charge, however, we are requesting that all families Black, White, Yellow and Brown are friends of the library, begin to make use of the library by checking out and reading at least one hard back book per month. To all those who agree to join this "Read a book of the month club," please write or call me and let me know. Send all mail to P.O. Box 4887, Las Vegas, 89127 or call 646-1662.

Join the NAACP today. NAACP ... Toward One Society.

THE JACKSON AVENUE SAGA

By Bob Palm

It was a bright sunny morning as an old property owner stepped from his small shop on Jackson Avenue.

He looked west; he slowly turned his gray-haired head and looked east. He shook his head with tears in his eyes.

He remembered the old days — the late 1950s and early 1960s — and how the street resembled a pretty young woman dressed in her finest Easter clothes.

At one time the street had been lined with nightclubs from D Street to F Street. It was a time of plenty. Nightclub owners had almost too many customers — the liquor flowed by the barrel, and the gambling games in the clubs never wanted for plenty of customers.

The clubs were packed to capacity on the weekends by black and white customers. It was a time when whites really wanted to have some down home fun, they rushed to Jackson Street where the people were friendly and a good time was assured.

Although blacks were

forbidden by law from patronizing similar establishments on Fremont Street and the strip, no such restrictions were put on whites to stop them from frequenting the westside.

The old man thought back. He had welcomed the news in the early 1960s that a group of whites and blacks had worked together to bring integration to all of Clark County for blacks. The Jim Crow laws had been taken off the books because of pressure brought primarily by members of the local chapter of the NAACP and others.

But a few months after integration, a creeping darkness started to descend on Jackson Avenue. The clubs' business drastically fell off, and shops began to close.

The late Dr. Robert West once said that integration was the worst thing that could have happened to the Westside as far as business was concerned, because Blacks in hordes began to exercise their new found freedom at establishments downtown and on the Strip.

The end results more than 20 years later is a street with few thriving businesses.

However, the Nevada Economic Development Co. has begun a plan to revitalize the area.

The agency has recently set up a satellite office at F Street and Jackson Avenue, Hughes Development Complex, just for that purpose. The office is under the leadership of James Bell.

An exact formula for the renewal of the street has not been developed yet, but Bell has a new approach to the project.

For the first time all property owners are being included in developing the area, whereas in the past, only business owners were included in the plans for the street.

The area consists of 30.7 acres of land, which is owned by about 60 to 70 businesses, government agencies and individuals.

(Next week The Sentinel-Voice will delve into the problems facing the renewal of the street and how NEDCO and the property owners plan to overcome them.)

L.A.'s mayor tosses in hat Runs for governor 2nd time

Four-term Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley doesn't give up easily.

He began campaigning Tuesday as a Democratic candidate for California governor — his second try at beating Republican George Deukmejian for the job.

Neither man is expected to face serious opposition in the June primaries to pick nominees for governor.

Bradley, 68, whose loss to Deukmejian in 1982 by a 93,345-vote margin was the narrowest in 80 years, said he's dismissed warnings

from "those who say it can't be done."

"I've heard them all my



Mayor Bradley

life," said Bradley, who could become the USA's first elected black governor if he wins in November.

Bradley called his 1973 election as the first black mayor of the Los Angeles "the fulfillment of the impossible dream."

Born on a Texas cotton plantation to sharecroppers, he moved to California where his mother was a maid and his father a Pullman porter.

In high school, he excelled in track and football. He disregarded advice to forget about college and attended UCLA on a track scholarship.

Bradley dropped out of college to join the Los Angeles Police Department, where he became its first black lieutenant and tried the then-radical idea of integrating squad cars.

While a police officer, he earned a law degree in night school and in 1961 retired from LAPD to practice law.

Two years later, he jumped into politics, winning a seat on the City Council.

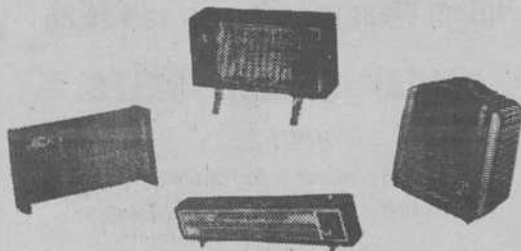
Bradley made an unsuccessful try for mayor in 1969 but ran again in 1973.



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