

## Students, School Board Members To Hold Mock School Board Meeting

Some 200 students and several current members of the school board will participate in a mock school board meeting at the Tom Williams Elementary School multipurpose room, 3000 E. Tonopah, North Las Vegas, at 1:30 p.m. on December 12.

The mock meeting is designed to show students how the school board functions, as well as provide some typical examples of the duties and responsibilities of board members.

The mock board meeting is an outgrowth of a previous invitation for the board to attend an open house at Tom Williams School. Because the school open house conflicted with a regular school board meeting on the same date, board members couldn't attend. One thing led to another. It was finally agreed that several board members would stage a mock school board meeting at Tom Williams for the benefit of students.

The fifth grade class along with the student council representatives from each grade level will be direct participants in the mock session. The agenda will be structured very similar to the school board's regular meeting agenda.

Students will act as

It has never been easy.

This year, Alabama child advocate Sophia Harris faced yet another in a series of uphill struggles on behalf of Alabama's black and disadvantaged youngsters. For the third year in a row, the termination of the state's program to help provide child care to disadvantaged children seemed likely. A special fall session of the legislature was called to resolve this issue and other budget matters. As a key leader in the child care community, Harris got on the phone to all of her friends -- women's groups, churches, civic groups, sororities,

concerned members of the public. They will submit cards a day in advance to reserve time at the meeting to speak on a subject of interest and concern. The board's standard operating procedures will be followed. However, there will be no action taken, since the meeting does not meet the legal requirements of a regular school board meeting.

Students are anxiously awaiting the meeting -- eager to learn all they can about the school board and how it functions.

by Marian Wright Edelman  
President, Children's Defense Fund

## Children Win Because We Persist

fraternities -- "asking them to get out and help us."

When the session ended, the money for child care had survived. Harris has never been daunted by difficult obstacles. As a young black girl, she sought to attend a predominantly white high school, an experience which, she says, made her "passionate" about equal educational opportunities for blacks.

She carried that passion into the first meeting in 1972 of the Federated Child Care Centers of Alabama (FOCAL), a network of black-run child care centers of which she is now director. The centers were then struggling with complex new federal requirements for child care. Focal came to their rescue, attracting our 40 centers into its network in the first year-and-a-half alone. It provided the training and expertise that helped these centers offer better quality child care to the black community.

But many black families in Alabama still faced a big obstacle to getting the child

care they needed: money. Harris did something about it. When federal funding to help families pay for child care began to dry up at the start of the '80s, she turned to another source: the state legislature. With a strong lobbying effort, Focal and other groups managed to win the first new state money to help poor and black families pay for child care in the history of this conservative state.

Harris was not deterred by the racial stereotypes and negative attitudes toward black held by some state legislators. Instead, Focal has built a broad coalition composed of both black and whites to fight together to hold on to the child care funds through repeated threats of cutbacks.

Once again, Sophia Harris has won -- and so have the children of Alabama. Her successful efforts are an important reminder that working for children is not a matter of fighting one fight. It is a matter of persistence.

## THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott  
President  
Las Vegas, NAACP



### --NAACP A Joyous Yuletide--

At this season of the year, family members are beginning to wonder what gift to give one another as expression of love, peace and joy. Many times, people travel long distances and pay large sums for gifts that they think will fulfill the needs and desires of their loved ones. All too often the gifts received do not satisfy the ones who receive them, either because the receiver already has the item given or because it does not have any lasting values. May I suggest that the above described gift that you are looking for can be found very easily and very inexpensively in the NAACP membership for every member of your family for a small sum of \$10 each. Why not join the NAACP today and make this a joyous yuletide for Christmas?

### --NAACP Holiday Seals--

The Las Vegas Branch NAACP has one hand in the office Holiday Seals to be purchased and used on all of your mailing during the holiday season. This year's seals are very colorful and depict the image of the new NAACP headquarters in the city of Baltimore, Maryland. Each sheet of seals is available for purchase for a dollar donation. Each year more than eighteen hundred branches of the NAACP make this appeal to the public. The proceeds of this effort are used to defray the cost of local, regional and the national operation of the NAACP. If the branch seals sales are three hundred dollars or more it will retain fifty percent of same in its treasury. NAACP members, friends and supporters are requested to come to the office and purchase their holiday seals. The branch is located at 940 W. Owens.

### --NAACP Election Day Scheduled--

Saturday, December 20 from 9:00am to 6:00pm is the date and time set to hold the Las Vegas branch election. You are advised to mark your calendar and make plans to be present to cast your ballot for the officers and members of your choice. If your membership is current or paid for during the last twelve months then you should come to the branch office and vote. Please don't fail or refuse to vote and then criticize the ineffectiveness of the people who are selected. This is your chance to become an active participant or an inactive complainer. Remember the NAACP derives its power from people. A truism that all of us can agree with is a few people, little power - more people, more power and no people, no power. Be sure to bring your NAACP membership card or receipt to the polls on election day.

### Free Tax Reform Seminar Scheduled

IDS Financial Services, Inc. is sponsoring a free seminar to the public entitled: "Tax Reform & Financial Planning". The seminar addresses the new tax reform act of 1986 and its effect on individuals financial planning. IDS is the financial planning division of American Express.

The seminars will be held Tuesday, December 2nd from 7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 6th at 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. the seminars will be held at the IDS offices at 2080 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 100.

The seminars are free to the public, however, reservations are required. Please contact David J. Watkowski at 794-0400 for more information.

## DANNY A-1 BAIL BONDS

Same Day Service  
24 Hour Service

Danny Curtis, Agent

382-5807 / 386-9593

415 E. Carson

State - County - City

Direct Connections with  
Southern California

Notary Available

Need Bail? Call Danny

Our success depends upon how well  
we satisfy you

**NELLIS** (702) 649-4200  
**FURNITURE**

Harold L. Johnson  
USAF SMS Retired

2666 Las Vegas Blvd North  
North Las Vegas, Nev 89030

### DEMOCRACY VS APARTHEID

In South Africa, There Is Only One Solution...

Your Support of The Freedom Fighters Will Hasten the Day of Victory for Democracy. One man-One vote. Give as if the absence of Liberty there diminishes all of us, in truth, it does.

Enclosed is my check/M.O. for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as my contribution to the Freedom Fighters in the South African struggle for One man - One vote.

Send Contribution to:

Democracy Vs. Apartheid Committee  
P.O. Box 644 Adelphi Station  
Brooklyn, New York 11238

Sponsored by: The First Consolidated Original Peoples Service, Inc. A.N.Y. Registered Not for Profit Corp.

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS