

## Pet Safety in Summer

The Clark County Department of Public Works would like to remind Clark County residents and visitors about the dangers of leaving their pets in hot cars.

Every summer, pet owners unthinkingly leave their animals in a parked car or in beds of pickup trucks, creating a potentially life-threatening situation for the pet.

"What many people don't realize is that the Las Vegas heat can be devastating to an animal," said Public Works Director Martin J. Manning. "Temperatures inside a parked car can soar to 180 degrees and can cause irreversible brain damage, or even death, to a pet."

The Department of Public Works encourages everyone to leave their pets at home during the summer months unless owners are absolutely certain they will not have to leave their animals in a parked car.

The Department also would like to remind pet owners to keep their animals secured in some way if pets are traveling in an open vehicle or in the back of a pickup truck.

## REFORM

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of the major reasons for the increase.

"The great majority of the women incarcerated are caught up in the drug scene somehow. And the kids are going to get caught up in that too, unless we can find a way to divert that," stated Saxton.

With the rise of the women's liberation movement, he says, came women's lib in the jail system. "You see some women getting into trouble independent of men, but it is still the rule, that the average woman that gets into trouble did so in conjunction with a male."

The women, he says, are more difficult to deal with because of the "strong attachment" to their children. "We've got to have programs that talk about how to raise youngsters here in the jail. Most of them (mothers jailed) have not been educated enough to work with the kids," he explained. In mid-

1986 Saxton developed a task force to deal with issues emerging on female confinement.

For the last year Saxton has promoted his views on jail reform nationally and internationally, with the ultimate goal of moving the jails into the "20th century." Competency based education, work release, and home detention are the operational concepts, the marine veteran underlines, to significantly upgrade the system.

"People who yell about rehabilitation versus it can't be done are failing to look at the fact that you got to give opportunity. If you have opportunity and then do the motivation bit, you're going to have a sizeable number of people gravitating towards rehabilitation. Remember, that guy in there has not been a winner," he stated.

According to Saxton the education department in the Prince Georges County Corrections system has been geared towards competency based education which he sees as being more practical. "I don't believe that much

in the GED in the jail setting, because the GED and 75 cents will get you a cup of coffee in most places. So what you have to do is make it a much more career oriented education and give them something they can do and play to their strong suit."

Having access to programs in the community, he says is mandatory to achieving success in the business. "I've had my staff do in-depth planning. We don't try to reinvent the wheel. If there is something out there in the community that will fill that need we will find a way that will have the public acceptance in using that medium."

Currently Saxton operates a 100 bed work release detention center, which is being expanded to house 300 inmates enrolled in the program. In the prison's work release to home programs the individual is required to 1) have a job, and 2) support his/her family. The family he says is critical to the overall process.

"I have family counseling as a component of this institution. Moving towards the end of your sentence our strategy is to have you meet up with an after-care counselor. After-care counselors come from the community and we've trained them. In home-detention you are still obliged to come back to the work release center for family counseling. That brings you, your wife, and your kids

—all that back together. We can begin to talk about how the three of them can begin to work it out and become whole again," he stated.

Saxton says that under his leadership some of the

## SAFE

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ies, graineries and store-rooms so that filth had less opportunity to contaminate a product.

Instead of acting on a drug after children died or poor were crippled, FDA would now require testing before a product was sold.

Manufacturers complained of red tape and delays. Some still do.

But today, patients and physicians are assured of drugs and medical devices that have been proved not only safe but effective: from antibiotics, cholesterol-lowering agents and emergency heart attack treatments to contact lenses and artificial knees and hip joints. We are assured that preservatives, flavorings and colors can only be added to our foods after careful study, including tests, typically in rodents, to rule out long-range, adverse effects.

We are the beneficiaries of a host of doctors, consumers, politicians and civil servants who sought to learn from past disasters and seek ways to prevent such tragedies in the future.

## HILL

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tion, and the number of working poor is growing at an alarming rate. Moreover, the last eight years have seen attempts by the Administration to weaken existing civil rights laws and regulations.

Most political analysts predict that the November election will be closely contested. Hence, the black vote can play a pivotal role in the election of the next president of the United States. And even though Jesse Jackson

**Norman Hill is President of the A. Philip Randolph Institute.**

These chronic problems will only be solved when a politically engaged and active citizenry demands a social economic and political agenda which addresses these issues. In recent years, the growing power of the black vote and political activism have forced politicians to seriously consider the concerns of the black community, particularly in areas where the black vote could provide the margin of victory.

will not be a candidate, this responsibility should not be taken lightly. The Jackson candidacy was about political empowerment. It demonstrated the enormous political resources of the black community. Those resources will be needed in November when the country decides its course going into the 21st century. Clearly, the 1988 elections are too important and the issues too pressing for anyone to sit out.

principles in corrections have been violated that used to be sacrosanct in corrections. "We encourage officers to talk to inmates. We encourage them to get to know them. We encourage them to encourage prisoners to get towards positive kinds of things. You're dealing with a guy who's motivated to say, 'what's in it for me.'"

You have to play the game, he says, to win, when responding to the inmate. "You can find yourself getting out faster. You'll find things are going to work out better for you. All of a sudden you begin to see maybe I don't have to be as I was before. Backing that up with vocational training, with education is a more practical kind of way.

## CHILD

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of poverty not only dim children's hopes—they threaten their very survival.

If children could vote, they would be more able to defend themselves against these threats. They could help elect people who are committed to fighting child poverty. They could wield political clout.

But children cannot vote. Therefore, we adults must vote on their behalf. To neglect to take the time to register, find out which candidates really care about children, and vote, is to neglect our own children. November is fast approaching, and now is the time to take action:

- If you are not registered to vote, get registered. It is a simple process. Contact your local Board of Elections for information.

- Make sure everyone you know who is of voting age is registered to vote: your spouse, grown children, neighbors, and friends.

- If you are a teacher, make sure your school has a program to help voting-age students register.

- If you are active in a church, help organize a voter registration drive.

- If you work in a human service agency such as a child care center, a health care clinic, an unemployment office or community center, an organization called Human SERVE can help you set up nonpartisan voter registration services in your office. Contact Human SERVE, 622 W. 113 Street, Room 410, New York, NY 10025; 202/280-4053.

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