

BILLS

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will be used for energy assistance over the next year.

The Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County has begun accepting applications for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, that last year helped more than 12,000 Nevada families pay a portion of their fuel or energy bills.

According to James Tyree, EOB Executive Director, anyone who is at or below 150 percent of the poverty level guidelines can apply for federal assistance of \$100 to \$360 per qualified household. The amount is determined ac-

ording to their type of dwelling, heat source, climate zone and income level. Most payments go directly to the energy or fuel supplier and are timed to arrive during the coldest months of winter.

Applications are accepted only during a four-month period from November 1, 1988, until February 28, 1989. However, the State will take approximately six weeks to process an application; so people are encouraged to apply early.

Filling out an application for the program will take about 15 to 20 minutes. People interested in applying will need:

1. Proof of income, from 4 to 5 weeks just prior to the application date: This can be check stubs, social security benefits, unemployment compensation or other.

2. A current Rent Receipt or House Payment, with the Landlord's name, address and phone number.

3. A current copy of a power bill or gas bill.

If you are interested in the program and would like more information, call EOB at 647-2536 or 647-1510. Your local senior center also can help you complete an LIHEA application. The State Office of Community Services, which administers the pro-

gram, has a statewide, toll free number: 1-800-992-0900, ext. 4420.

Every person who applies will get a notice in the mail indicating if your household is eligible and how much of an assistance amount your utility company will be paid towards your bills. Again, the State will take about six weeks to process your assistance request, so be patient.

AEW

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development, and education.

Finally, the superintendent will issue a proclamation for Education Support Staff Recognition Day. The Education Support Employee of the Year will be announced and awarded also at the Wednesday board meeting.

On Friday, the week long observance will be capped off with the Von Tobel College Aid Fund News Conference, 1 p.m. at Von Tobel Junior High School. George Von Tobel, son of the school's namesake, the late Ed Von Tobel, Sr., will announce details of a \$200,000 trust fund established for current year sixth grade students to assist with their college education.

In addition to Biggerstaff, coalition members include: Mary Husby, American Legion Auxiliary Unit #8; Orrin C. Husby and Dwight Billedeaux, American Legion Post #8; Judy Witt, Las Vegas Area Council PTA; Annie Barclay, Classified School Employees Association (CSEA); and Roland Magan, Clark County Association of School Administrators (CCASA).

Also, Chopin Kiang and Matti Krajcech Clark County Classroom Teachers Association; Amy Carver, Las Vegas Recreation Department; Pat Marchese, Clark County Cultural Affairs; and Pauline Donoho and Ray Willis, Clark County School District.

American Education Week was begun in 1921 by the American Legion and the National Education Association, organization which sought to encourage local support and active citizen participation in the improvement of education.

AEW is sponsored nationally by many groups including the National Congress of Parents and Teachers (PTA), National Education Association, National School Boards Association (NSBA), the American Legion, the United States Department of Education and the National School Public Relations Association.

BLACKS, LIKE MOST AMERICANS, IMPACTED BY LOW-PAYING JOBS

by Shirley Reed-Blash
NNPA Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A report released by the Senate Budget Committee found that low-wage jobs are growing faster than any other kind, and is threatening the

middle class standard of living of most Americans.

The study was based on data prepared by the U.S. Commerce Department's Census Bureau. It examined employment growth over the last eight years, during the Reagan Administration.

DAVIS

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informed by the officials at the Clark County Health District that they have no jurisdiction over the project as long as it does not become a nursing care facility.

Rev. Davis further said that he is worried about the fact that the project was placed on the Westside, particularly since only white tenants were living in the project.

He said the project has been placed in the "heart of the black community. It appears to have been snuck in, and that's not fair. Would something like this have been accepted in Paradise Valley? We have young people around here all the time, and statistics show that patients who have AIDS don't care about who they give their disease to." He voiced concern about the behavior of the tenants towards nearby residents.

Rev. Davis said that he has been educated about AIDS and how it is spread, but he is still apprehensive about the garbage that the tenants would produce. "We've got some hungry people around in this area who scrounge around for food in garbage cans," he said.

Thomas Harvey, president of the St. Thomas Restoration House vows to try to allay the fears of Rev. Davis and near-by residents, citing that Rev. Davis' feelings are typical of communities that are still afraid about the spread of the AIDS virus. Pointing out that the AIDS virus is transmitted through blood and semen during sexual contact or by reused drug needles, he also dismissed Rev. Davis' concern about the behavior of the AIDS tenants, saying that they are "too tired" to do much of anything, because AIDS attacks the body's immune system, weakening the patient as well as his or her defense against infection.

Harvey also pointedly let it be known that one of the tenants at the AIDS complex is a black man who was put out of his former apartment by his landlord, who was also black.

Sen. Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.), chairman of the committee, recently told the Senate: "The sad truth is that jobs paying below the poverty level are growing faster than any other jobs. And, jobs that provide a middle-class standard of living are a shrinking part of our job landscape." And, Chiles said, the news that wages are moving in the wrong direction, "isn't good."

The committee used 1987-value dollars to trace changes in employment trends during this decade in the study. A Census Bureau formula was used to determine income groups. It sets a middle-income range — for a family of four — at earnings above \$11,120 and below \$46,445.

In 1979, 64 percent of jobs in the United States were in the middle-income range. Over the last decade, nearly 51 percent of the net increase in employment has been jobs paying poverty-level wages. There are signs of this trend accelerating, the committee reported.

This was particularly highlighted by the findings relating to minorities. In terms of net employment, 1.4 million low-paying jobs held by minorities were added. While there was an increase of only 147,000 paying high wages.

Although the percent of high-paying jobs has risen to 4.5 percent of the total workforce — 10 years ago, it was 3.7 percent — the largest increase is at the lower end of the wage scale, the study found.

"The downward wage polarization is color blind," the study stated. "Both Whites and nonwhites have seen the share of jobs paying below the poverty level expand at the expense of middle-wage jobs."

A spokesperson in Senator Chile's office said the study was prompted by the congressman's concern for the number of low-income jobs being produced. "He's trying to increase public awareness," said Dennis Beal, the senator's press secretary. He added the report is available to the public.



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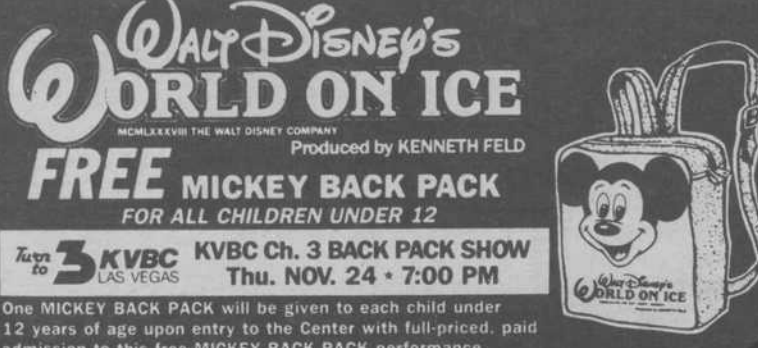
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