

## Who Cares for Elderly?

by Valerie Smithe

### Adult Health Day Care Center

It has been estimated that 20% of the work force over 30 years old cares for elderly relatives. While day care for kids is catching headlines, care for elderly parents is the faster growing of the two issues.

Many persons have partial or complete responsibility for aging parents. Usually the burden falls directly on the working woman, who not only leaves home every day to pursue a career, but also has the tasks of household maintenance, shopping, cooking, and now the added responsibility of assisting an elderly parent or parents with day-to-day living. Work time is often missed in order to accompany the elderly on trips to the doctor or for medical tests.

Before the cost of living made it necessary for many women to enter the work force, caring for the elderly was not the significant problem that it is today. Also, with new advances in medical treatment, people are just living longer. This growing number of elderly persons has created a demand in communities for more long-term care facilities, and as an alternative, day care centers for adults.

The Salvation Army Adult Health Day Care Center, 830 East Lake Mead Drive in Henderson was started 3 years ago as a result of this growing need. Care is provided during the day for the elderly and/or physically or mentally handicapped. The Center is open to anyone over the age of 18 years who may need a caring environment during the day while members of the family are at work.

As the only certified "health" day care center in the area, persons who may

## Westside Agencies Sponsor Special Thanksgiving Dinners for the Needy

Local Westside Agencies and Charities were busy as early as Monday this week, making Thanksgiving for the homeless and the needy.

A pre-Thanksgiving dinner was sponsored by the Community Citizen Concern Program at noon on Monday. The feast was held at the group's temporary office at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, 725 Miller Ave.

Eliza Rone, CCCP program director, said, "Some of these people haven't had any food like this since last Christmas. This is the holiday season and almost everyone is feeding them on

have special medical needs are provided the necessary trained nursing supervision to assist with any medical problems, such as blood pressure screening, insulin shots, and dispensing of medication, to those who can no longer do so themselves without help.

The Center as a pilot program is one of the few health facilities of this kind in the nation and has much to offer persons who have dependent adults to care for. Transportation to and from the Center and for doctor or medical treatment is available. Snacks and hot lunches are served each day and a full schedule of activities help to keep the clients active and interested.

Day care for adults provides an alternative to costly long-term care or institutionalization and allows loved ones to remain at home with their families. The Center is open Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and accommodates many families in the area with a specific need for a place for their loved ones during the day while at work.

For more information call 565-9578 and ask for "Day Care."

Christmas Day and Thanksgiving, so we decided to do it a few days before."

Young and old, needy neighbors, the homeless, the blind and drifters were among the more than 1,100 people the charity expected to feed that day. They enjoyed a feast of turkey and dressing, ham, country gravy, vegetables, salads, and pastries. The food was donated by some of the resort-hotels and some of the community leaders of the Westside.

Community Citizen Concern Program has been in operation for five years now, and it has sponsored these pre-Thanksgiving and pre-Easter meals every year. Director Rone indicated that things are beginning to look up for the organization. She expects to move the program from its temporary headquarters in Mt. Ararat Church into a house just up the street from the church early next year. The house, a government repossessed and abandoned home, is now under renovation.

"We'll buy it eventually, but the government is presently leasing it to us for a dollar right now," she said.

The charity is also anticipating getting a \$60,000 grant from the state in the near future.

The EOB (Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County) was also busy on Monday morning, as it donated several hundred Thanksgiving baskets to needy families. The baskets were distributed at the EOB Head Start Office at 1818 Balzar.

### "Toys for Tots" Applications Being Accepted

Nevada Business Services and The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's "Toys for Tots" Program is now underway. The project is for the economically disadvantaged youth up to 12 years of age.

Applications for the program will be accepted between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday at the following locations:

Nevada Business Services, 235 N. Eastern Ave., #106; Nevada Business Services, 922 W. Owens; and Nevada Business Services, 117 Water Street, Henderson.

The Christmas Party will be held this year on Dec. 17, 1988, at Cashman Field.

## Be Informed

from the desk of

Jimmy Johnson

Parents, be informed of the happiness and fun that was evident at the New Edition concert in the Thomas and Mack Center on the campus of UNLV last Friday night, as the youth of Las Vegas gathered together for an evening of loud music, screams and creative dancing in their seats. The energy level of our youth was released in a very creative manner through the clothes they wore, the dances they did and their smiles and friendliness as they enjoyed themselves. I noticed no fights among the juvenile kids, no abuse of drugs and alcohol as would be seen from wild, misbehaved kids or troublemakers, whose parents hadn't raised them well and the best that they could.

To have almost 17,000 youth hungry for entertainment and fun in one of the most stressful cities in the U.S.A. that caters to the over 21 crowd and doesn't give any attention to the youth living here, can only lead to a city that has a juvenile court services at 200% capacity, the highest teen dropout, highest teen suicide and highest teen pregnancy rates in the country.

Las Vegas parents, community leaders and Clark County elected officials, please wake up and ask the youth what they want and need, and you'll find that in the 80's, our kids still want the same things that we wanted in the 60's and 70's.

Let's not lose another generation of Black, White, Latin, Asian and other children of color to rules and unreasonable laws that we have invented, because our city grew too fast for us to keep up with it, and we therefore took away from the youth first.

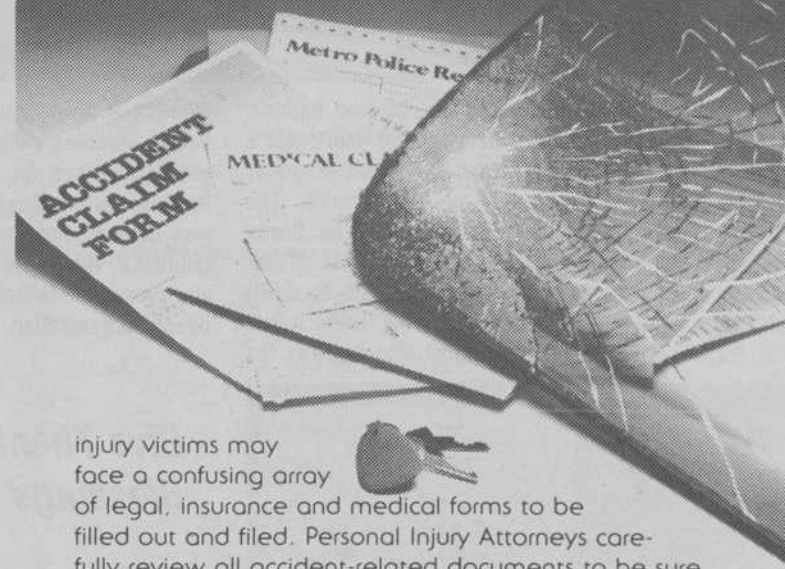
Let's stop putting our youth on the bottom of the important list and begin to give them more creative outlets so that they can develop into our leaders of tomorrow.



A Special Call Membership Meeting of the Las Vegas Branch of the NAACP will be held in the Branch Office, 940 West Owens Avenue, Wednesday evening, November 30, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a discussion on the upcoming Branch Election.

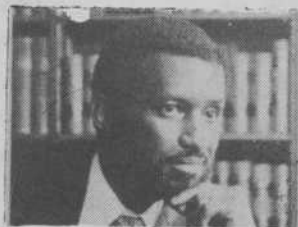
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