

Be Informed
from the desk of
Jimmy Johnson

BE INFORMED that as of February 1, we as African American people, are recognized by this nation for 28 days, so let's be seen and heard each and every day of African-American His-story Month. Let's show the city of Las Vegas that as citizens of the Westside, we are viable. As African Americans, we must realize that the problem is not a black and white issue, but that GREEN is the color of our situation and that we as a people must compete for this color.

If all of the churches, businesses and citizens of the Westside wouldn't deliver their collections to FIB and Valley Bank on Monday morning, we would have a bank or at least a teller machine in our community on Tuesday. Black entrepreneurs, it's time to get busy! This city is growing at an alarming rate and I haven't seen YOU at any of the Council meetings.

I would like to thank Elijah Green, owner of the New Town Tavern, Dale, manager of Big 8 Supermarket and Councilman Steve Miller for their support of Community Programs that give one-on-

one support to the youth who don't use drugs or hang around with gangs. With their support, we are able to effectively give these youth some of the outlets that the schools, city, state and federal systems have forgotten to address or for which they charge admission. When 2 percent of the youth create 98 percent of the crime and the police can't control it, it is nice to know some people still believe in the 98 percent of the youth that don't cause problems.

The quicker the city, schools and the community understand that new and innovative ideas need to be put into the system, the quicker the youth can show their God-given creative talents and the city can stop blaming the parents of third and fourth generations of illiterates, who are working, poor, law-abiding citizens who must work to support a family that they get to talk to for about 4 minutes a day.

During African-American His-story Month, the community needs to show all of the positive plays, seminars, dances and youth oriented programs and focus on the

youth WITHOUT problems, instead of focusing on drugs, gangs, failing school systems and other negative images. Let's show the city that our youth are the creative source of our future and that they can control their own destiny. Through education, empowerment and skills, they are enabled to control their own destiny, and what they are doing wrong becomes positive.

To the youth, 10 years from now Las Vegas will have an additional 100 millionaires, and with knowledge, skills and energy for understanding the system, you can be one of them. GOOD LUCK! The support of the community is a MUST, if we are to keep up with the growth of Las Vegas. Remember, the only thing that can take away your knowledge is cocaine, and knowledge is the key to success. We are devoted to a carefully worked out set of strategies that would confer important new opportunities and contribute major shifts in education, economical and political advantages for the citizens of Las Vegas.

JESSE D. SCOTT ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR MAYOR OF NORTH LAS VEGAS

At a press conference Tuesday, Rev. Jesse D. Scott, Pastor of the Second Christian Church and President of the Las Vegas Branch of the NAACP, officially announced his candidacy for the Mayor of North Las Vegas.



Rev. Jesse D. Scott

Speaking to a group of supporters and reporters, Rev. Scott emphasized that he seeks to represent ALL residents. "The essence of campaign is about unifying people, black people and white people," he said. "I reach out to them (whites), why shouldn't they reach out to me?"

A long-time civil rights activist in the greater Las Vegas area, Rev. Scott, in addition to his leadership in the NAACP, has served as Executive Director of the Nevada Equal Rights Commission, a member of the Blue Ribbon Transportation Committee of Clark County, a Site Selection Committee member for the West Las Vegas Library, a member of the Board of Directors of the EOB (Equal Opportunity Board of Clark County), and a member of the Fair Housing Board of Southern Nevada.

He is a member of both the Pastor's Conference and the Minister's Alliance of Southern Nevada, as well as the North Las Vegas Democratic Club and the Fordyce Club of Las Vegas.

Rev. Scott says he will run on the issues of Crime/Drug Abuse/Control, Employment, Tourism, Economic Development, Housing and Finance.

"We are in the process of developing positions on these issues," he said, promising a stand on the issues later.

He declined to criticize the present mayor of Seastrand's record, saying only "I believe I can do a better job as a leader."

Mayor Seastrand, though he has not officially announced his candidacy, has

LIBRARY DISTRICT BRANCHES SERVE AS TAX RESOURCE CENTERS

The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District will serve as a major tax information resource for the community, offering tax forms and printed instructions at various branches throughout January, February and April.

The Library District will also host the Internal Revenue Service's Taxpayer Education Programs. Staffed by volunteers, VITA Sites (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) are designed to help individuals who earn less than \$20,000 annually, or are handicapped or are non-English speaking taxpayers.

TCE (Tax Counseling for the Elderly) offers assistance to people over 60 years of age. Pre-registration for appointments is required.

On Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Clark County Library conference room, Scott Johnson of Shearson-Lehman Brothers, Inc. will present a "Tax Review" covering recent changes and revised procedures

acknowledged he will seek re-election.

Rev. Scott resides at 2712 Carla Street, North Las Vegas, and has two sons, Tyrone and Jarvis.

Robert (Bob) Duckett, well known North Las Vegas, is the candidate's Campaign Manager.

Mrs. Pat Jones Tells Her Side of Story In Dispute With Clark County School District

"The message rings loud and clear at John C. Fremont Jr. High, if we don't like what you say, do, or look like we'll send you to Opportunity School."

In hopes of shedding light on a serious problem that is growing across the nation, I think it's important that parents, teachers, politicians and students hear my story. The willingness of people to address the problem is crucial.

My purpose is not to discuss the particulars of my case but to examine the quiet and inconspicuous way differential disciplining has been put into practice, and to determine how this pattern developed. The events leading up to all of this took place earlier in the school year.

A teacher told a student to sit his butt down. She alleges he responded using profanity (kiss my butt). Ten students insist he did not.

The dean of the school explained it was the policy of the school to always back the teacher. Therefore my son was referred to Opportunity School. My position was, the

teacher initiated the undesirable level of communication to begin with and, coupled with other discrepancies, I questioned the harsh disciplinary action taken. It was explained to me that the incident shook the credibility of the teacher and the administration felt the need to send a message to the students. After a series of meetings and discussions it went to a full fledged hearing before an appeals board. The decision went in our favor, then the problems began. Although the decision was to reinstate the student, the principal felt he needed more time. He wanted to meet with the teachers. There were concerns expressed to me by various employees at the school district about placing the youngster back in the school, because of the political debate that ensued.

Some felt the principal was a "sore loser," and would set out to get him. Others

went so far as to say he had a reputation for being a "power monger," and would not accept defeat. Nonetheless, I met with him again, assured him I had always worked closely in support of the school district and would continue to. I also assured him my son would not treat this as a smug victory, but would apologize to the teacher, for whatever he said, and put it behind him.

I was given one word of caution — my son had to be perfect. Every incident, no matter how minor, "even if it were not an infraction of the rules but deemed disruptive" would result in an automatic RPC (Required Parent Conference). I informed Pupil Personnel that I questioned the legality of this and suggested I needed an attorney. I was assured that would not be necessary.

Two referrals came. The dean at that time assured me they were for typical kid mischief but because of past circumstance, felt

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