

Las Vegas Housing Authority Again Under Fire

The City of Las Vegas Housing Authority again came under fire this week, when the newly-formed Housing Authority Board elected Carl Rowe as the Authority's Executive Director. Rowe, who has no experience in public housing, was chosen over four other candidates all of whom had had previous experience as administrators in public housing.

Gail Gonzales, one of the most vocal advocates for tenants' and employees' rights and for Housing Authority reform over the past few years, has called for the resignation of Louis Conner, the newly appointed-Chairman of the Board. According to Gonzales, Conner, who was just appointed to his new position two weeks ago, and who, as Chairman, has the deciding vote, had promised the tenants' and employees' group that he would vote for their choice, Monroe Watson, for the Executive Director post. Conner, however, cast his vote for Carl Rowe.

As a result Gonzales and her group began a boycott last Sunday of the Seven Seas Seafood Restaurant and Lounge, which is owned by



Louis Conner

Conner, saying that if Conner won't assist and abide by the wishes of the people, then the people won't spend their hard earned dollars at his restaurant.

Gonzales stated further, that if Conner doesn't resign, her group will push for Mayor Ron Lurie to fire him.

The Sentinel-Voice attempted, but was unable to get a comment or statement from Louis Conner.

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Profiles Of Westside School Alumni Association Members

by H.P. "Fitz" Fitzgerald

This is the eighth in a series of profiles of members of the Westside School Alumni Association.

It was a real pleasure interviewing our alumn this week, along with her husband, in their modest home on Cunningham Drive in the Old Westside of Las Vegas, where the City of Las Vegas had its beginning.

What was most interesting to note during the interview, was meeting the stream of seven children (two in the military) visiting their parents this Saturday morning, some with their children.

The parents, Emma and Joe Clary told this writer that not a week passes when their children don't visit them or call just to say hello. Emma and Joe also stated that all nine of their children are gainfully employed, and all live in Las Vegas except for the two in the military services. The youngest child, who is studying music and communication is the only one living at home.

EMMA PAGE CLARY -- Emma Clary, one of two girls, was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, but moved to Las Vegas with her family at a

very early age and graduated from the Westside School at a time when it was a kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8) school, and one of the two such schools in the entire City of Las Vegas. The other one was the Fifth Street School located at the



Emma Clary

present Foley (Federal) Building site and the Clark County Annex, which are now situated on Las Vegas Boulevard South in downtown Las Vegas. The present Las Vegas High School was the only high school in Las Vegas during that period in the city's history.

After graduating from the Westside School, Emma worked at odd jobs and enrolled in the then Skills Center on South Martin L. King Drive (then known as Highland Drive), where Walker Furniture Company is located at the present time. Emma majored in Secretarial Science and graduated in the upper 10 percent of her class.

Immediately after graduating from the Skills Center, Emma and ten other graduates were placed in an On-The-Job Training Program with Centel Telephone Company for further training. The program

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Westside Alumni Group Readies for Reunion

By H.P. "Fitz" Fitzgerald

The Westside School Alumni Association is busy making plans for their Second Reunion scheduled for May 26-27, 1990, to be staged in Las Vegas.

The reunion will begin with a picnic on Saturday, May 26 at Lorenzi Park on West Washington Avenue, beginning at 9:00 a.m. There will be a banquet on the evening of May 27th. The place and time of the banquet will be announced at a later date in this publication.

The picnic will feature free food, displays, arts and crafts for alumni members, their families and friends, according to Dr. Betty Henderson, group president. Anyone interested in participating in the organization's picnic or banquet should call Dr. Henderson at 649-7070 after 6 p.m. or Vice President James Council at 642-2460 after 3 p.m.

All proceeds from the reunion will go towards providing financial assistance for the West Las Vegas youngsters attending college or trade school. The organization is now providing scholarships to two students enrolled in higher education.

Scholarships may be obtained by calling one of the above numbers.

Rainbow Coalition Opening Offices in Las Vegas

The Nevada Rainbow Coalition recently opened new offices in Reno at 527 Lander Street 89501 and will soon be opening offices in Las Vegas. The Chairpersons of the Rainbow Coalition of Northern Nevada are Carrie Lockett and Richard Womeldorf. The Acting Chairperson of the Rainbow Coalition of Southern Nevada is Pearl Cleveland. In November 1989, Rev. Jesse Jackson appointed Kathe Godette of Reno, State Chairperson of the Nevada Rainbow Coalition.

The Nevada Rainbow Coalition is a permanent, independent political organization that grew out of Jesse Jackson's historic bid for the presidency in 1984 and 1988. The Rainbow Coalition traces its roots to the Civil Rights Movement and the Poor People's Campaign of 1968 led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. before his tragic assassination. The Rainbow Coalition carries on the spirit and tradition of that movement as a force for political and social change. They seek to tie the common interest of people of all races, young and old, men and women, employed and unemployed, in order to improve living standards.

The National Rainbow Coalition and the Nevada Rainbow Coalition are mobilizing a new progressive majority to elect political leadership committed to a new domestic policy and a new foreign policy for this country.

They envision a Nevada and a country where every person has both the right and the opportunity to develop his or her maximum poten-

tial. Everyone is entitled to a meaningful job and decent pay. Everyone is entitled to a decent home to live in and a clean and safe environment. Everyone is entitled to good health and nutrition. Everyone is entitled to quality public education.

The Rainbow Coalition envisions a society truly without racial, religious or sexual discrimination.

To achieve these goals the Rainbow has engaged in specific programs. Although only nationally organized in 1986, and organized in Nevada in 1988, The Rainbow has developed strategies for political and social improvement. Rainbow chapters across the country have constantly fought racial and sexual discrimination wherever it has occurred. Many local coalitions have been at the forefront of voter registration and political education activities, bringing millions of new voters to the polls. Rainbow candidates have won local offices. State and local chapters have begun to participate and take the lead in formulating strategies to address local issues. The National Board has created commissions to deal substantially with programs for major issue areas, including Labor, Women, health and international affairs, with more commissions to be developed.

On the Nevada State level, local chapters are busy organizing a voter registration drive, monitoring how elected officials vote, and encouraging all Jesse Jackson supporters to turn out for their March 6, Democratic Precinct meetings. Even though Jesse Jackson is not on any ballot in 1990, his issues and many Rainbow Coalition political candidates are. It is crucial that people realize that it is not their privilege to participate, it is their right and their responsibility.

As Jesse Jackson said about being involved politically, "IF YOU DECIDE TO...NOT WORK, YOU'RE DOING YOUR ENEMY A FAVOR. THE THREAT IS NOT THAT WE MIGHT LEAVE, (the political process) THE THREAT IS WE MIGHT STAY."

For more information about the Nevada Rainbow Coalition, call 385-5806 in Las Vegas, 885-9272 in Carson City, or 322-0808 in Reno. Or you may write to: The Nevada Rainbow Coalition, P.O. Box 50550, Reno, Nevada 89513.

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