

## MRS. JANIS STEVENSON NAMED NEW CEO FOR NEDCO, INC.

Mrs. Janis Stevenson has been named as Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the Nevada Economic Development Company at a recent NEDCO Executive Board meeting. Stevenson replaces Dr. William H. (Bob) Bailey as CEO on February 1, according to NEDCO Board Chairman Rev. Marion Bennett.



Janis Stevenson

Mrs. Stevenson joined NEDCO in 1985 as Director of Loan Activity. Her experience includes 12 years in administrative and loan officer positions with Security Bank of Nevada and First National Bank of Arizona.

She received a B.S. degree in Business Administration from the University of Arizona in 1974.

## BAILEY

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at the NEDCO Conference in the past, including Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole.

Bailey's experience also included show business as featured vocalist with the Count Basie Orchestra, television personality and producer, newspaper columnist and real estate developer. He is listed in the Who's Who of Black America and American Economics. In 1980, he was chairman of the Rules Committee for the White House Small Business Conference, and a member of the Committee in 1986.

Dr. Bailey directed the first office of Manpower Services, a program of employment development for low and moderate income individuals. From 1961-1966, he served as the first chairman of the State Delegation to the White House Small Business Conference. Since 1986, he has served on the Las Vegas Citizen's Advisory Committee to the City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency.

Congressman Barbara Vucanovich (R-NV) said, "Bob Bailey comes to the Bush Administration with a tremendous amount of talent and knowledge in the field of minority opportunity. He has been an outstanding public servant; I know Nevada will miss him, but he will be a great asset to the Department of Commerce."

"I am delighted that Secretary Mosbacher has appointed Bob Bailey to such a prestigious position," she continued. "His knowledge of minority achievement and minority business development will help him to implement successful strategies on the national level."

"As the first woman Member of Congress from Nevada, I am delighted that Bob Bailey has been chosen as the first Black Nevadan to serve in the Bush Administration. I am proud of having supported his nomination to direct the Minority Business Development Agency."

## FITZGERALD

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was called an O.J.T. Program. When the Technical OJT Training Program was completed, only Emma and one other trainee survived, and at this writing, only Emma is yet with the company, having completed eighteen years with Centel. She is now assigned to the administrative division of the company's Maintenance Department. She can retire in two more years, if she so desires.



H.P. "Fitz" Fitzgerald

Emma spends her evenings and weekends involved in community programs and she is the school superintendent of the Power House Church of God In Christ, where the Rev. John Logan is the pastor.

Emma's husband Joseph, "Joe" for short, spent 30 years with Clark County and is now retired, but working at several projects in the city and self-employed, just to "keep in shape." Emma and Joe stated during the interview that they believe their children are successful in their careers because they taught them discipline, hard work and getting along with others as they grew up. Emma and Joe have been married 39 years and have nine "winners" in the nine children. They are batting 100 percent, which is unusual in the world of high technology and a drug-infested society. None of their children have been involved in drug abuse or alcohol, as they all have used their parents as their role

models. And all nine children were born and raised right here in the "Old Westside", where there were no paved streets, sidewalks or streetlights until the mid-fifties when a few areas on the Westside received some curbs and paved streets, through an assessments program set up by the City of Las Vegas. And since this was an assessment, the cost of the projects had to be paid by the individual property owners. Most property owners in the Old Westside at the time could not afford the assessment district program, so the Old Westside was dark at night, with dusty or muddy streets, depending on the weather. That was the condition of the Westside.

Emma and Joe's children are nine "success stories" like their parents.

Norvella Clary Moore is a supervisor in the Clark County Assessor's Office. Anita is completing her seventh year in the U.S. Air Force and Princess Clary Jackson is in the administrative office at Todkill-Lincoln-Mercury Motor Company in Las Vegas.

Joseph Jr. is a sanitation engineer with Clark County. Dexter is a journeyman electrician, having completed the five-year training program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training (BAT) as an electrician. Paulis is employed in the resort hotel industry in Las Vegas. Vinson is completing his fifteenth year of service in the U.S. Army and Christopher is pursuing a career in music and communication, specializing in broadcasting and recording.

Any couple today that can bat 100 percent in raising their children is to be congratulated. Members of the Westside School Alumni Association salutes Emma and Joseph "Joe" Clary for an excellent job, well done, in raising their children and neither Emma nor Joe are college graduates. They told this writer that they knew only hard work, and that they had to be just a little bit better than their competitors, or fellow workers.

## BLACK HISTORY

by Gwen Walker

### Zora Neale Hurston

Anthropologist and Novelist



Gwendolyn Walker

Zora Neale Hurston was born in 1903, in Eatonville, Florida.

Miss Hurston was a graduate of Barnard College in New York City, where she was a student of Dr. Franz Boas in the field of anthropology. She was recommended by Dr. Boas to the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, to make a special study of a Negro community at Plateau, Alabama. The purpose of the study was to collect materials of anthropological and historical value about the descendants of the last slaves to reach the United States in 1859. From this study, Miss Hurston wrote an article in 1927 for the JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY titled "Cudjo's Own Story of the Last African Slaver."

With her valuable collection of folklore, Miss Hurston turned novelist, using her firsthand materials and her gift for narration to produce a number of fictional works. Her book "Mules and Men" is a collection of true stories

of humble Negroes presented in their local setting. "Tell My Horse" is another anthropological study of the life of the Haitian Negro. "Jonah's Gourd Vine" is a work of fiction. "Their Eyes Were Watching God" is a startling story of Southern Negroes, which may be classified as an historical novel, since it covers such things as poverty, race, hate, segregation and the economic struggles of the Negro.

Miss Hurston's works are usually vivid because she lived among the people winning their confidence and actively taking part in their lives.

Miss Hurston died in 1960.

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