

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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qualifications of an AFN described in Mr. Ray Willis' column (3/26/92). The pained expressions on her face gave me the impression that it made her seriously ill to have to deal with a person who lived and worked in the Westside area, along with an "I'm in a hurry" attitude coupled with the fact that she practically burned rubber leaving both meeting places. But I disagree with the notion that simple explanations such as, forgetting their blackness or, not caring applies to ALL AFNs. There remains the sixty-four thousand dollar question, Why specifically do AFNs have that snubbing-their-nose attitude?

I, myself, live just a hop, skip and a jump from the Westside. Nevertheless, I am classified as a Westside African American, having taken up residences within the boundaries of Bonanza and Cheyenne, north to south and "A" Street and Rancho Drive, east to west. However, I consider myself an "MAAFN". I have the mental attitude of an After Five Negro even though I do not physically qualify for the category of an AFN.

I was slightly exasperated with some of the "pretty convincing arguments" (in paragraphs 7 and 8) regarding AFNs relocating to the Westside. The percentage of less-well-off persons is far greater than the percentage of better-off persons. The LWO's are the majority, the AFNs are the minority! Therefore, closing the distance between these two factions for the purpose of exchanging free and potentially benefitting information is hardly a sufficient reason; joining the two factions together would hardly stabilize the community; the presence of the AFN minority would hardly raise the value of housing; the Banks, always have, do now, and always will, focus on the impact of the majority; the Westside already has a sufficient number of schools, enough to serve the entire community; there are already numerous franchises and businesses to service the Westside community in its various needs, and there are enough neighborhood markets and convenience stores - all in close proximity of each other—to serve in the capacity of a Supermarket that could surpass Smiths, Vons, Lucky and Albertsons. So what's the problem with these arguments? Majority Rules!

AFNs do not have to "live" among LWOs in order to exchange free and beneficial information; if LWOs want the AFNs in their community then the LWOs ought to change their attitudes and standard of living; to raise the value of housing. LWOs must take pride in themselves and their community, take care of their property and clean up the trash! If AFNs out-numbered the LWOs (became the majority) in the community then the Banks would indeed be interested; improve the quality of education and upgrade the facilities and grounds of the schools already existing; and patronizing the already existing franchises and businesses will enable them expand, thus contributing to the growth of the community.

I am an AFN at heart, not because I don't care, or because I don't want to be black. But if given the opportunity, I would readily move into the physical category of an AFN. Crime seems to be more prevalent in the Westside (with North running second) than in the South and East sides. What AFN wants their home burglarized and their hard-earned possessions taken, damaged, or totally destroyed? What AFN wants to enroll their child or children in a school where various other atrocities and tragedies can easily occur? What AFNs want themselves or family to live in constant fear of becoming the victim if a drive-by shooting, gang war or homicide of any nature for

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PAYING YOUR TAXES

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cashied by anyone except the recipient named on the money order. (It's important to immediately sign the money order and fill in the state or federal government payee.)

•RECORD RETENTION — If a money order is lost, it's possible to trace and replace it using the number imprinted on the receipt. Just as important, processed original copies are stored on microfilm for seven years, providing a reliable personal or auditor record.

•CONVENIENCE — Money orders are sold in grocery stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, check cashiers, financial institutions and, in some states, liquor stores.

Money orders are convenient, inexpensive, and have been a reliable form of payment for more than 100 years. In fact, they've been around almost as long as Americans have been paying income tax.

EGYPTOLOGIST/AUTHOR

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On Thursday evening, Dr. Ben returned to New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church's Addison Community Hall where he narrated several series of slides from his collection of the nearly 100 persons who returned on day two of his lecture.

Dr. Ben said that he has nearly 25,000 slides in his total collection and that at 73 years of age he can still remember what is taking place on each slide.

Even if you had some disagreement with some of the information that Dr. Ben delivered, you were culturally enriched by the masterful, scholarly approach that he took in presenting his material.

Las Vegas will never be the same, especially if those of us who understand that our history continues and has not died or been buried, but can be and is being resurrected in groups, organization, churches, mosques (Masjids), synagogues, institutions of learning and in individuals who are taking an active part in making America what she was meant to be, by being an active participant in helping better the quality of life for African-Americans, people-of-color and all Americans.

It is obvious that our community can help restore our neighborhood to the dignity of our ancient past by taking an active part in supporting organizations such as the Black Cultural Awareness Society, African-American Summit Committee, purchasing as well as donating books, magazines, historical artifacts and so on to the Native Son Book Store, getting behind the efforts of African-American drama and theatre groups and being proud to display unity in helping our youth in supporting groups such as 100 Black Men Helping Boys.

Finally, we would like to wish "God Speed" to Dr. Ben on his return to Egypt and for those who would like to tour the ancient ruins and monuments of Africans on the Nile in Egypt, there are group packages which include accommodations, room and board, dining arrangements etc. Please contact Sam Smith at (702) 647-0101 or

Sharon Elizabeth Sexton at (702) 893-0105 for more information. There will be several touring packages available before the end of the year. Learn about your past so that we can better understand the present and be active in cultivating our future as contributors to our community, nation and global or (world community.)

We would like to commend the following sponsors and contributors for making Dr. Ben's presence amongst us pleasurable and resourceful; Native Son Book Store, 1301 No. "D" Street, Dr. William Pearson, Clark County Commissioner, Gate's Bar-B-Q, Harrah's Hotel & Casino, Frank Hawkins, Las Vegas City Councilman, Dr. Al Gourrier, President and The Black Cultural Awareness Society members who worked to see it happen.

After the slide series, Dr. Ben signed autographs and addressed individual concerns of the many persons who surrounded him. There was also a martial arts and acrobatic exposition that "stunned" the audience.

POLITICAL POINTS

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people claim injustices in the criminal justice system when court cases like the Mike Tyson case are decided? They all proclaim that racism played no part in the Tyson trial because the victim was also Black. However they are missing the entire point. Surely if he committed the rape he should be punished, but the real issue is the comparative of Tyson's sentence compared to Rob Lowe's sentence of community service, which by the way, he was sentenced to community service which includes speaking to high school students after being convicted of having sex with minors and videotaping the acts. Not to mention William Kennedy Smith who was cleared of rape in a case where there were witnesses. Tyson-60 years.

I guess the integrity of men is to be measured by their conduct, not by their professions.

WILLIAMS: Damn!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids for Bid No. 92-2610.11, for construction of: REED WHIPPLE RESTROOM RENOVATION, will be received by the City of Las Vegas until 3:00 P.M., APRIL 14, 1992.

ALL BIDS MUST BE FILED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 10TH FLOOR, CITY HALL COMPLEX, PRIOR TO 3:00 P.M., ON THE DATE ESTABLISHED ABOVE.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud, immediately after the established closing time and date, in the Office of the Purchasing and Contracts Division, 1st Floor, City Hall Complex, 400 East Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

All documents pertinent to this Invitation to Bid may be examined at:

Office of the Purchasing and Contracts Division, 1st Floor, City Hall Construction Notebook, 3131 Meade Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada
F. W. Dodge Co., 1850 East Flamingo Rd., Suite 107, Las Vegas, Nevada

Bid documents may be obtained at the Office of the Purchasing and Contracts Division, 400 East Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. There will be a \$5.00 postage and handling fee for all bid documents mailed outside the City of Las Vegas. Checks are to be made payable to City Treasurer, City of Las Vegas. No bid documents will be mailed until the City receives the check for the complete amount.

Prospective bidders are requested to direct any questions concerning this project to David Rawski, Senior Buyer, Purchasing and Contracts Division, at 229-6231, between the hours of 9:00 A.M., and 3:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid, and subject to the conditions stipulated by the Owner.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within sixty (60) calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

A pre-bid conference concerning this project will be held on March 25, 1992, at 9:00 A.M. in the Office of the Purchasing and Contracts Division Conference Room, 1st Floor, City Hall. The purpose of this conference is to discuss the project in detail and to consider prospective bidders' concerns.

The estimated monetary range of this project is \$40,000.00 - \$50,000.00.

Dated 3/10/92

E. Gail Hall
E. Gail Hall, Deputy Director
Department of General Services

David L. Kuiper
David L. Kuiper, Director
Department of Parks & Leisure Activities

Lee M. Jennings
Lee M. Jennings, Chief
Purchasing & Contracts Division

CLARK COUNTY INVITATION TO BID BID NO. 2791-92

MARYLAND PARKWAY ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PHASE C

THIS PROJECT CONSISTS OF CONSTRUCTING ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS ON MARYLAND PARKWAY BETWEEN TWAIN AVENUE AND KOVAL AVENUE AND WILL INCLUDE EXCAVATION, AGGREGATE BASE COURSES, PLANTMIX BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT AND OPEN-GRADED SURFACE, MEDIAN ISLANDS, TRAFFIC SIGNAL LOOP DETECTORS, PAVEMENT MARKINGS, UTILITY ADJUSTMENTS AND RELATED MISCELLANEOUS WORK.
ESTIMATED COST: \$2,100,000

PREBID CONFERENCE: 9 AM, April 13, 1992, at Clark County Public Works, Marbeya Center, 6555 West Sahara Avenue, Building B-104, Management Conference Room, Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of the Conference is to review and discuss both the specifications and the County's Minority and Women-Owned Business Policy.

Bids will be received in the Office of the Clark County Director of General Services, Purchasing Division, Bridger Building, Tenth Floor, 225 Bridger Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155 on April 29, 1992. Bids must be time-stamped at 3:00 PM or before, bids time-stamped at 3:01 PM or after will be returned to the bidder. Overnight Mail must use the 89101 code.

Specifications and drawings are available at the above address for a non-refundable charge of \$20, and if specifications are to be mailed, there is an additional nonrefundable charge of \$5. All checks are to be made payable to the Clark County Treasurer. IF YOU PAY IN CASH, PLEASE HAVE THE EXACT CHANGE.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA