

BLACK PANTHER

(Continued from Page 5)

Official, weekly columnist of Sentinel-Voice News and former moderator of KCEP's "Straight Talk" program; Deborah Jackson, community action person for WAAK-UP; Muhammad Abdullah, Investigative Journalist, Sentinel-Voice News and Dora Harris, Community Investment Officer for U.S. Bank.

Ray Willis talked about the need for brothers of courage and strength in the West Las Vegas community. "I'd like to commend you (BPP) for taking the right stand and for being a positive source of support for the often embattled black community."

Willis talked about a recent move throughout the United States of young whites and others taking up arms and going on shooting sprees, that in many cases result in the injuries and outright fatal slayings of innocent people.

"There was a movement similar to these mass slayings that was staged nationally against all Black Panther Party members in the 60's."

Being in the electronic media as a highly respected television news reporter in Las Vegas, Willis reiterated how the media promoted negative images for individual blacks, as well as groups such as the BPP, to make the public reject them, and any positive goals and directives they promoted went virtually unmentioned and unnoticed.

Jackson said that the presence of the BPP gives the West Las Vegas community hope. She said that the community should take note of their commitment to civil rights.

Jackson recalled an experience she had as a child while

growing up in Detroit. "While growing up in the city of Detroit, the Black Panther Party was alive and well and I remember that my mother forbid me to buy or even read a Black Panther Party newspaper because she said 'This group is a radical group and you just can't be reading those things!' So being the rebellious person that I am, I not only bought them, but I read them as well. I remember going to downtown Detroit and I recall talking to the brothers that were selling papers down there. They began to talk to me. It was there that I learned about Marcus Garvey and they talked to us about Paul Robeson. They began to talk to us about things on an everyday basis," she said.

Abdullah compared some of the experiences that he experienced as a follower of the Honorable Elijah Mohammed - founder of the Nation of Islam.

"We were fired from our jobs if we had an 'X' as a last name. We were blackballed by co-workers if they found out that we were followers of the Honorable Elijah Mohammed," he recalled.

Abdullah said that the terms radical and militant were applied to African-Americans who loved Black people; who revered and respected their history; who would not accept mere slave history - which chronicled the history of former slaves once they reached the shores of North America - as not truly representatives of the rich and thriving history of Africa.

Abdullah ended by stating that it should be emphasized that the late Malcolm X shed his 'X' once he returned from the Hajj Pilgrimage in Mecca, Saudi Arabia where he met Muslims from all over the globe - European, Egyptian, German, Turks, Chinese, Japanese, African and many other nationalities and races.

Malcolm X came back not as Malcolm X, but as El Hajj Malik Al Shabazz. He in effect gave up white hate, if it ever existed, and embraced the humanity of man all, races with one creator. They - the media - want the memory of El Hajj Malik Al Shabazz to die and are attempting to keep alive Malcolm X before his period of enlightenment. I too have embraced universal Islam," he said.

Davis said that black people need to get back to loving and trusting one another again. He said that at one time we - as a race - were not as impersonal and as fearful of each other.

"We use to be each others keeper. We use to help each

other raise their children in our neighborhood. If you got in trouble down the street with Mr. Wilson, he would whip you, and if your parents heard about it, you got another whipping. We need to get back to that caring attitude. Our youth are so violent today. We must come together

and unite," said Current.

Current said he envisioned a day that there will no longer be a need for a Black Panther Party, Martin Luther King Committee or a NAACP.

"I would like to see a community that truly reflects 'All Of Us Together. Until then, we will be

fighting injustice and racism where ever and when ever it sticks up it's head," he said.

For more information on programs offered by BPP or if you are interested in volunteering or making a donation call (702) 792-9066 or drop by their office at 504 Jackson Street.

WAAK-UP

(Continued from Page 11)

donated a 13-inch remote control T.V.; Mr. Lee White donated a fifty-dollar check; and Mr. Mujahid Ramadan donated two-thousand raffle tickets to the organization."

"We chose the H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary School because Ms. Shirley Barber will be starting out with absolutely nothing for the school children. This is our community and we have a responsibility to make sure that

our schools have the best of everything. We will be raising funds all year, every year, strictly for our schools. We are extremely grateful to the Omega Fraternity for purchasing 60 raffle tickets," she added.

The following are some of the items needed in preparing for the historic opening of H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary School in West Las Vegas community which will target low-income families and high-risk youths:

riding toys, such as big wheels, tricycles, dolls, blocks, balls, computers, software, etc.

Lewis said that all children are a worthwhile and valuable resource regardless of race, creed or color.

Donations are tax deductible and can be made to tax I.D. number 025284514.

For more information call (702) 646-3280 or write WAAK-UP, 1216 Helem Ave., N.L.V., NV 89301.

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The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any advertising or answers that is or appears to be overly sexual, suggestive, or offensive to the public. Persons who place or answer to personal ads do so at their own risk. No names, private addresses or telephone numbers will be printed. The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice assumes no liability for the content of or reply to a personal advertisement. Abbreviations: **M - Male; F - Female; S - Single; D - Divorced; P - Professional; B - Black; W - White; H - Hispanic; A - Asian; J - Jewish; N-D - Non-Drinker; N-S - Non Smoker; N/D - No Drugs**

LITERACY

(Continued from Page 9)

In that short time, Linda's reading has progressed to the 7th grade level. Now she can read the menu and order what she likes in restaurants and she opened a bank account for the first time.

"During the four years Coors has been involved in literacy, we have met hundreds of people who have turned their lives around by learning how to read," said Phyllis Coors, national spokesperson for Coors "Literacy. Pass It On." "The common denominator of all non-readers and what keeps them from coming forward to seek help, is the incredible emotional pain that accompanies the problem. Illiteracy is much more than just a skills deficiency. It is the emotional impact of a life without words that we want to convey through the creation of Wordless USA. We hope this will help people begin to understand how debilitating illiteracy can be and how courageous these new readers are to come forward and conquer their problem.

Coors "Literacy. Pass It On." is a five-year commitment in partnership with four national literacy organizations to reach 500,000 adults with literacy services by the end of 1994. To date, 350,000 adults have been reached because of the funds provided to locate, regional and national literacy organizations. The company also funds the Coors Literacy Hotline (800-626-4601) for those who want to be volunteer tutors or who want to learn to read.

SWF — 5'0", 105 lbs., seeks SWM 5'9"-6'1", nice looking, slim to medium build 35-48 yrs., who likes to do everything together, decent income, N/D, light drinker, outgoing, but serious. 07082

DBF — Attractive, outgoing, romantic, honest, seeks Romantic, intelligent, outgoing, creative, non-smoking, honest, professional man 35-45, who enjoys traveling, playing Bingo, slots, bowling, fishing, spoiling his woman and really living life. 07081

SWM — 5'11", 180 lbs., loves books, music and nature. Looking for attractive, old fashioned female who enjoys same. Age not important. 07154

SWM — Heavy set, 5'11", New Yorker, seeks unattached - NS, ND, N/D, enjoys life with good sense of humor. Likes music, movies, traveling, theatre, keeping busy 30-40 years old. 07083

SM — 28, 6'2"; comedian, enjoys jazz, reading, light drinking, N/D, N-S, seeks delicious personality, unattached 18-45. Attractive mind/body, titillating soul. I'm black-hispanic. Race unimportant. "Nice children welcome". 07155

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