

BUSINESSMEN

(Continued from Page 1)
for his staunch Republican views and principles. Disappointed by the lack of response from Democratic party affiliates of that time, he saw Wilson's zest and pragmatism towards getting the job done. He joins other prominent African Americans who believe in Republican ideals. Elgin Simpson, chairman of Community Peace of Las Vegas, is a staunch Republican. Local businessman, Bob Bailey, is the primary coordinator for the newly formed National Black

Republican Round Table. "It looked like the only ones who came out to help me were Republicans," recalls Edmond. The party's firm belief in self-reliance proved an enticement for Edmond, who was no stranger to this philosophy.

Working as a baccarat dealer in some of the most prominent strip casinos, Edmond worked his way into property development and real estate while he held a full time job. He would keep up this dual career regime for twelve years while he

REPUBLICANS

(Continued from Page 1)

The National Black Republican Round Table recently formed a Nevada chapter. Sponsored by a handful of directors, the organization has already planned an awards banquet to be held on Friday, October 28, at the Sahara Hotel and Casino at 7 pm.

The keynote speakers for the event will be long-time Nevada U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich and U.S. Congressman Gary Frank of Connecticut.

The event is titled, The Frederick Douglass Dinner, in honor of history's most famous Republican and outspoken critic of slavery. Douglass, who supported the party during the pre-civil war era, was an eloquent speaker and profound theorist for abolition.

Special recognition will be given to Woodrow Wilson, Nevada's first Black Republican State Assemblyman.

Wilson's career included 3 terms in the Nevada State Assembly and 1 term in the Clark County Commission. He is the recipient of countless awards for public service and the founder of the first African-American credit union in the state of Nevada.

GOOD NEIGHBOR

(Continued from Page 6)

households have median income levels below the county median of \$40,500.

Good Neighbor, a partnership between the Nevada Housing Division and First Interstate Bank, also offers discounted home improvement loans. First Interstate has issued six Affordable Home Improvement Loans totaling \$74,753 in the Good Neighbor "key zones" since the program

began in April.

Tom Mangione, southern Nevada area manager for First Interstate Bank of Nevada, said the response to the Good Neighbor Program has exceeded all expectations. About 900 inquiries were fielded soon after the program was announced, most of them coming from Southern Nevadans who didn't meet the program's criteria, he said.

(See Good Neighbor, Page 27)

established the Nucleus Development corporation.

The early years were lean as Edmond describes his attempts to rent his Nucleus property to clients.

Initially, he hired a property management company to rent the space. "I had a white realtor trying to sell space to white tenants in a black neighborhood," he recalls. The marketing attempt produced dismal results. He needed to take on the effort himself.

A corporation which is now fully diversified with interests in construction, property management, catering, and

entertainment. In less than 15 years, Edmond developed a multi-faceted business with numerous interests.

He credits Wilson for his early contributions and professional guidance. It was the bootstrap philosophy that Edmond says that showed Wilson early on that he meant business. "He picked up the fact that we were serious...we came with cash up front for our investment," he recalls. "We didn't come looking for a handout."

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DRUG CZAR

(Continued from Page 1)

computer skills training, career days, and college preparation workshops. AIDS awareness and alcohol/drug prevention workshops as well as skills training will also be incorporated into this program. Each student will also be required to complete 30 hours of volunteer service as part of their graduation requirement for this program.

CHOICES for the Future is a six-month program open to all students from 7th - 12th grade. Students completing the program will receive 1/2 credit from the Clark County School District as an elective course.

United Way of Southern Nevada is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reaching those who need help most. Local volunteers helped to raise more than \$7 million during the 1993 campaign for community needs. For every dollar donated, 85 cents goes to provide local services in the following areas: access to services; basic needs; childhood development; health services; senior services; and youth development. Currently, 93 local programs receive regular support through community donations.

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