

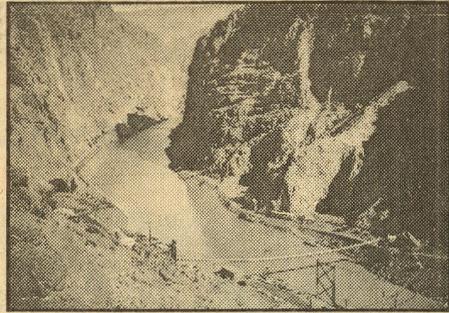
4-25-93

IMPORTANT DATES

Key events chronicle progress by blacks in Southern Nevada

1928: Las Vegas chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People forms.

1931: Colored Citizens Labor Protective Association forms to get black workers hired on the Boulder Dam construction project. By 1936, 44 blacks had been hired to work on the project.

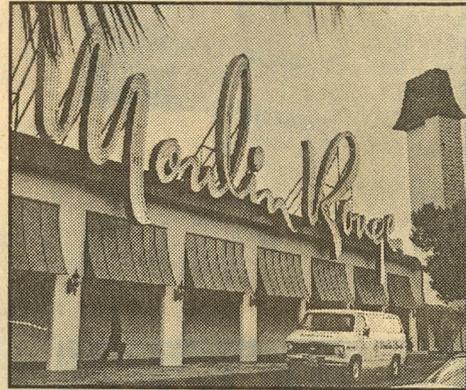


1941-45: Black workers migrate to Las Vegas from Fordyce, Ark., and Talulaha, La., during World War II in hopes of landing jobs at the Basic Magnesium Inc. defense plant in Henderson.

1946: Mabel Hoggard becomes first black teacher in the Las Vegas Union School District, now the Clark County School District.

1955: Charles West and James McMillan, first black doctor and dentist,

open practices in Las Vegas. The Moulin Rouge, the first interracial hotel-casino in Las Vegas, opens on May 24, 1955, briefly becoming one of the city's hottest nightspots before poor management caused it to close a few months later.



1956: H.P. Fitzgerald becomes first black school administrator in the state when he is named principal of Kit Carson School.

1959: First black policeman Herman Moody is hired by Las Vegas Police Department.

1960: Historic agreement is signed March 26 at the Moulin Rouge, ending segregation in Las Vegas hotels and

staving off a planned march on the Strip by the NAACP.

1963: Earle White Jr. becomes first black attorney in Las Vegas and Nevada. Monroe Williams and James Walker become first black firefighters in Las Vegas.

1966: Woodrow Wilson becomes state's first black legislator when he is elected to the Assembly.

1967: First black waitress Gwynestra Dukes is hired to work on the Strip at the Sands Hotel. James Walker, now a co-owner of the Moulin Rouge, becomes first black dealer on Strip, working at the Desert Inn.

1969: Several days of rioting in October send about 80 people to jail and about 40 to local hospitals. The disturbance was touched off by an incident involving an alleged assault by a black youth on two white males at the Golden West Shopping Center, now Nucleus Plaza.

1970: Sporadic rioting over civil rights issues plagues Clark County schools during the fall and winter.

1971: Las Vegas hotels and services unions sign consent decree, pledging to end discrimination in hiring after the U.S. Justice Department filed a civil rights lawsuit. A federal judge also orders the Clark County School

District to desegregate after the NAACP charges discrimination.

1972: The Clark County School District puts its controversial sixth-grade center plan into effect, integrating elementary schools by busing black children out of their neighborhoods.

1990: Police are criticized for the killing in July of black casino floorman Charles Bush, 39. Bush died from a headlock placed on him by one of three white officers who had entered Bush's apartment for an investigation.



1992: A jury in April acquits four white Los Angeles police officers of charges of using excessive force in the arrest of black motorist Rodney King. The verdicts touch off riots around the

country, including Las Vegas. A boycott of Clark County schools in the fall prompts the school district in October to create a Prime 6 plan that will allow West Las Vegas students in first through third grades to attend elementary schools in their neighborhoods.

1993: Bank of America Nevada in March invests in Las Vegas' predominantly black neighborhood known as West Las Vegas by opening a branch office. Several efforts, including Community Peace and All of Us Together, begin in March to defuse tensions in anticipation of King verdicts. City reacts calmly to the split verdicts announced April 17.



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