

# Moulin Rouge Barber Shop Groundbreaking

BY ED BROWN

A groundbreaking ceremony was held last Thursday for a \$100,000, 10-chair barber shop in Highland about 100 yards North of Washington Avenue.

Presently located near the Moulin Rouge Hotel, it is anticipated that the new location will be open for business by Dec. 1.

The new enterprise will be owned by Booker Burney, his brother Edward and nephew Mack Smith, Jr.

Booker Burney, who had been a barber for 24 years, said the plans call for a shopping complex to the building sometime in the future. Expected businesses will include a cleaners, an ice cream parlor and a floral shop.

On hand for the groundbreaking ceremonies were Jimmy Gay, long-time Las Vegas resident and pioneer; Woodrow Wilson, former State legislator; Realtor Jimmy Toler, Booker Burney, Edward Burney, Mack Smith, Jr., Leon Butler and Booker Burney, Jr.

"One of the highlights of my career in this town is to see these three young men start out with construction from the ground up," said Jimmy Gay. "I don't think we've had any group of black men, as young as these men are, to be endeavored in a project like this. I think it shows progress in the community and we're so proud to be a part of it."

Woodrow Wilson saw the occasion as a major milestone insofar as the

project was concerned. He, too, expressed an appreciation for being on hand and participating in the ceremony.

Wilson stated that the source of funding for the new construction was through the Westside Federal Credit Union. "I have looked forward to time," added Wilson.

"As Treasurer-Manager of the Westside Federal Credit Union, I am very proud that we have been able to participate and help responsible young men in the community to venture into what we anticipate will be a very successful business."

Wilson reported that the assets for the Westside Federal Credit Union amount to well over \$1 million.



GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY — On hand for the new barber shop groundbreaking ceremony last week were (L-R): Jimmy Gay, Woodrow Wilson, Leon Butler, Booker Burney, Edward Burney, Mack Smith, Jr., (squatting) Booker Burney, Jr. Photos by Ed Brown



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PRINCIPAL OWNERS BREAK GROUND — Realtor Jimmy Toler joins the principal owners of the new barber shop during the groundbreaking ceremony. Shown, left to right, Jimmy Toler, Edward Burney, Mack Smith, Jr. and Booker Burney.



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