

THE MONTHLY REPORT OF THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMITTEE OF LAS VEGAS

THE KING REPORT

By Wendell P. Williams

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." This profound quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is the thrust of the activities of the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee during the month of May. The following is a brief overview.

On Saturday, May 9th the committee will host its Christmas in May Extravaganza. The Extravaganza will take place at the Shade Tree Shelter for homeless women and children. The group will present in the form of gifts, school supplies, toys, clothing and etc. to all the shelter residents. Too often we only think of the less fortunate during the holidays; we hope that people in need should experience sharing throughout the year. For more info contact Belinda Thompson, the events chairperson, at 648-1438.

On Saturday, May 16th the committee extends an invitation to the public to attend and join in hosting its Senior Health Fair Picnic. The picnic for senior citizens will take place at Lorenzi Park at 11:00 a.m. and run through 2:00 p.m.

The health fair will provide seniors with a number of services from organizations such as the American Heart Association, Senior Law Project, Nathan Adelson Hospice American Lung Association, etc. Come out and enjoy and picnic with community seniors and share their fun. Organizations or political candidates may obtain booths by contacting Belinda Thompson at 648-1438.

The committee is currently seeking youth between the ages 14-21 to join the Martin Luther King Drill Team that is currently being organized. For information on joining the team contact Anthony Coaxum team advisory, at 452-1073.

On Sunday, May 3rd at the general membership meeting of the committee, the upcoming 1993 King Week Celebration Theme was selected. The Committee voted to title next years festivities "LIVING THE DREAM: CREATING DRUM MAJORS." The winning theme was submitted by King committee member, Linda Porter.

The committee is pleased to

announce its renewed commitment to Culinary Local 226 as our brothers and sisters of organized labor are out on strike at the Frontier Hotel. We stand firm to our commitment to support justice in the workplace.

On Sunday, May 31st, the committee will make its monthly **AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

"WEST LAS VEGAS" RIOT OF 1992: WHO DO WE BLAME?

By Gwen Walker

When first asked, a lot of people responded, "Blame the Gangbangers, they are bums, hoodlums and good for nothings." I think we



GWEN WALKER

better look at ourselves, Las Vegas, not just the Gangs. For the first time in Las Vegas History, the "Bloods and The Crips," came together for one common goal. When the gangs first attempted to go Downtown, Metro immediately blocked them off and turned them back. The gang's intentions were to march Downtown in protest of the injustices of the judicial system in Las Vegas and across this country. Have you ever asked yourself why Metro enforces the law in West Las Vegas and Protect and Serves other parts of the city?

By Metro blocking off West

church visit at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

The organization visits a different church each month as a group. During each visit a \$125.00 donation is presented to the youth committee of the church. Please join us.

Coming in June, the Dr.

Las Vegas, the gang's only alternative to vent their anger was to destroy all businesses they thought were owned by non-blacks or governmental agencies, along with other looters.

On Friday after leaving the community meeting at New Jerusalem Church, we left for Zion Methodist Church to meet with the gang members. Before reaching "H" and Owens, Streets, the 1st. of three cars with young African American men in them were stopped by Metro. No less than eight Metro officers would stop each of the three cars. The Metro officers would all stand around with their rifles drawn in every direction as if they were in a war zone. This was very insulting to the young men as well as all of us watch-

ing. One car of men had 12 officers with drawn guns on them. Fortunately, Commissioner Pearson observed these officers and called Sheriff Moran from his car to call off the officers because those young people had just left the 1st church meeting. This is the kind of behavior that keeps tension in our community. Those of us that observed these incidents could understand the outrage of our young people. We can no longer blame the gangs; we must look at ourselves and come up with some positive solutions for all people. The gang members

and participation contact Chips Taylor at 369-8987.

The Martin Luther King Committee was founded in 1981 and has an open membership to all individuals who wish to join in the agenda for addressing hunger, employment, workers rights, education, homelessness,

domestic and community violence, services to the elderly, political participation. Please join us.

The president of the board of directors is Dr. Tyree Carr and the organization president is Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams.

were willing to give up their lives to say enough is enough. It was the Sentiment of the majority to have a Boycott of non-Black Businesses; we must eat at Black

owned Restaurants, shop at Black owned stores. This must be done to make a full impact.

For more information contact Ayika Kamaal.

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