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SESSION **COUNCIL HOLDS SPECIAL**

By Joan Shepard

West Las Vegans can expect more jobs; improved housing; and increased community facilities in 1993, according to a preliminary report of the Multijurisdictional Community Empowerment Commission, presented yesterday at a special session of the Las Vegas City Council.

The commission (MCEC) was formed immediately following the April 30th civil unrest sparked by the Rodney King verdict in Simi Valley, California. MCEC is co-chaired by Mayor Jan Jones and City Councilman Frank Hawkins with a membership of 25 West Las Vegas citizens.

MCEC will meet with representatives of the major downtown hotels and the three Strip hotels in construction to nail down plans for a specific number of jobs to be offered to West Las Vegas residents. This job-meeting is scheduled for Dec. 30 and will include Jack Binion, owner of the Horseshoe.

Binion and MCEC have formulated the Horseshoe Jobs Program which will include a jobs hotline in the West Las Vegas Task Force office to be located in Nucleus Plaza. The hotline will give information on current job openings, pay scales, special requirements and career openings.

Earlier this month, MCEC asked for assistance

from the U.S. Department of Commerce to build a Job/Career Service Center in West Las Vegas. The center would be the headquarters for both existing and proposed job and training programs provided by non-profit organizations and government agencies.

The West Las Vegas Neighborhood Plan, another important component of the MCEC report, proposed to improve the area by looking at six key areas: traffic and transportation: land use: community facilities; traffic and transportation; housing and visual image. The MCEC would coordinate the work of many city agencies including Economic and Urban Development; Parks and Leisure; Building and Safety and other agencies.

The MCEC's Community Planning and Affordable Housing Sub-Committee recommended a massive clean-up and beautification program between H and Owens and I-15 and Bonanza. Plans call for building rehabilitation; landscaping and painting.

Plans also call for the improvement of Fitzgerald Park at Monroe and H Streets. This plan would include a survey of area residents to find out what they want in the park as well as improved security. Improving the amount and quality of affordable

(See MCEC, Page 5)

AMERICA BREAKS GROUND



Dignitaries and onlookers prepare for ground breaking ceremony for Bank of America, which when completed, will become West Las Vegas' first major financial institution. Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

LAS VEGAS-In what will soon become the first major financial institution built in West Las Vegas, Bank of America Nevada broke ground last Thursday on its new 1,200 square foot branch which will be located on the southwest corner of Martin Luther King and Washington boulevards.

According to Bank of American Nevada Chairman Richard Etter, the bank is eager to

begin construction on this branch, which is expected to be finished some time in February, as it represents the bank's commitment to help rebuild West Las Vegas.

The bank, along with other such efforts as the City of Las Vegas' plan to build a shopping center on Owens Avenue near the Nucleus Plaza Center, and the possibility of a Vons (See Bank of America, Page 9)

Do you know who Oprah Winfrey's all time favorite group is? Well, you'll get the chance to see them perform here on Thursday, December 17th at 7:30 p.m. when the WINANS ONE FAMILY WORLD TOUR makes its debut for one performance only in the Theatre for the Performing Arts.

THE WINANS have a unique and unmistakable style that reaches across age, race and denominations and have the ability to touch people by singing songs about everyday experiences.

This tour enables the entire family to perform collectively instead of in solo or individual groups. Marvin, Carvin, Michael and Ronald first started off together singing in a local Detroit church choir.

Today they have received such prestigious awards in both the inspirational and secular categories - 4 Grammys, 3 Dove and 7 Stellar awards. You can catch their soul stirring collection

on their latest album, "RETURN."

Bebe and Cece, following the footsteps and success of their older brothers, are riding the top of both R&B and Gospel charts with their newest release, "Different Lifestyles." This album includes collaborations with great artists such as Hammer, Mavis Staples and Luther Vandross. "We want to sing songs that touch the emotions of those who listen and let them know what we believe in," states 26 year old Cece.

SISTERS is the next break off of this talented family. Angelique and Debra, under the supervision of older brother Bebe, is in the midst of producing their first album and are ready to spread their wings and let their voices be heard.

Daniel, who composes much of his own music, describes it as "universal music for everybody," and has recently released his own album, "MY POINT OF VIEW" which several of the Winan (See Winans, Page4)



THE WINANS ONE FAMILY TOUR amkes debut next Thursday for one show only at the Theatre for the Performing Arts.

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