

**POLITICAL POINTS:
"THE MAN, HE FIX IT"**

By Assemblyman
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APRIL 15, 1993

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Local March Planned For Saturday

KING TRIAL JURORS CONCLUDE FIFTH DAY OF DELIBERATIONS

By Lee Brown

As jurors of the tension-filled Rodney King civil rights trial ended their fifth day of deliberations Wednesday, various attempts by community leaders and activists, both locally and nationally, to keep the peace, have taken place despite the spreading of many false rumors.

In Los Angeles, Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., through a personal letter distributed to the residents of South Central Los Angeles, called for calm in

the streets. Also in L.A., Reverend Benjamin F. Chavis, who was recently selected the new executive director of the NAACP, visited and took up residence in L.A.'s Imperial Courts housing projects, and also called for peace.

Waters made several trips through her district, personally handing out copies of her letter to residents after a brief news conference Tuesday, while Davis talked with Watts gang members. "It's calm here and I think its going to be calm here after the verdicts," said

Davis, former executive director of the United Church of Christ Commission For Racial Justice.

Los Angeles police remain on alert and National Guard Troops continue training as jurors enter their sixth day in deciding the case.

Locally, tensions are equally high as reports show residents across the valley are preparing for the worst, as rumors continue to spread.

Though originally postponed, a "March For Unity" has been scheduled for Saturday, April 17, according to Community Peace member Joanna Wesley-Lee.

"It is requested that members of "Community Peace" and "All Of Us Together" participate in the Unity March along with other members of the community," said Wesley-Lee. "With the fact that this is not California, we need to get on with the business at hand and not concern ourselves with events in other cities."

The march, slated to start at 10:00 a.m. at the corner of Washington and Main Street, will travel to Fremont Street, then Las Vegas Blvd., and will end up at (See Trial, Page 9)

L.A. POLICE CHIEF WILLIE WILLIAMS SLATED TO SPEAK AT NABJ LUNCHEON

Police Chief Willie Williams, who oversees the operations of the largest, most visible arm of Los Angeles' municipal government - nearly 10,000 sworn police and civilian personnel, is the scheduled guest speaker for the National Association of Black Journalists' Newsmaker's Luncheon at noon on Friday, April 23, during the organization's 1993 Western Regional Conference.

The NABJ's Western Regional Conference comes to Las Vegas one year after the riots sparked by the Rodney King verdict in Los Angeles.

Today, we are still confronted by this troubling issue and our shared concern about its volatility.

The conference is envisioned as an opportunity to examine the roles and responsibilities of broadcast and print media in coverage of issues critical to the healing process.

Chief Williams, whose police department serves 3.4 million citizens in the nation's second largest city, began his extensive career in law enforcement in 1964 as a police officer, and was appointed head of the L.A. Police Department in 1992, just after the riots. Prior to this appointment, he



L.A. POLICE CHIEF
WILLIE WILLIAMS

served as police commissioner for the City of Philadelphia, PA.

Williams is the recipient of ten police department commendations and numerous civic awards, including the William French Smith Award by the U.S. Attorney General. He is the immediate past national president of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Los Angeles County Chiefs of Police.

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BARBER RECEIVES "MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION AWARD"

By Muhammed Abdullah

Shirley Barber, former principal of Mabel Hoggerd Sixth Grade Center of the Clark County School District and long-time educator and resident of Las Vegas, recently received the "Milken Family Foundation Award." This award is bestowed upon persons who have shown exceptional quality in the cultivation of human excellence. Those of us who are familiar with Ms. Barber, certainly are aware of the excellent example and role model that she has been as an educator, concerned citizen and community activist.

She is currently assigned to the H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary School, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 1993. A strong advocate of the education of the "whole child," Ms. Barber sees to it that each school decision or activity is considered according to the impact that it will have on the student's emotional, social or academic well-being.

Ms. Barber is also a firm believer in community involvement in the educational process.

"Since my early childhood, my decision to be an educator has been foremost in my mind," she said.

"Pursuing this career has always been a priority."

Among the innovative programs established by Ms. Barber while principal at Mabel Hoggard Sixth Grade



SHIRLEY BARBER

Center is the "Pre-First grade Intercession Program." This program prepares "at-risk" children for the first challenges of school.

In 1990, Ms. Barber was inducted into the Clark County School District Hall Of Fame. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors in the community.

The true fortune for the students is to have Ms. Barber's wealth of talent, genuine concern, and experience at their grasp.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice salutes Ms. Barber and extend our best wishes for years to come as she takes the helm of H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary School.

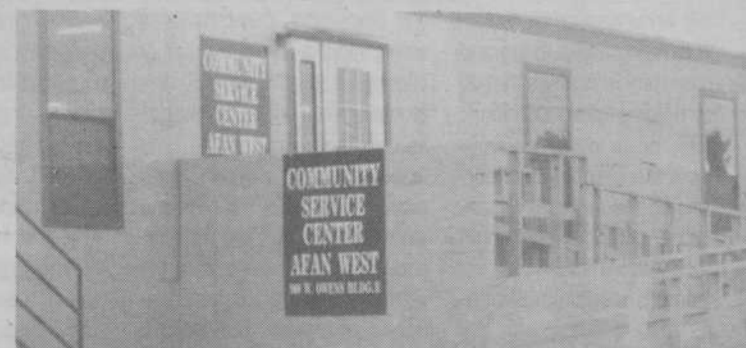
"AIDS AND HEALTH AWARENESS DAY" ATTRACTS NEARLY 500 PEOPLE IN RECENT GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

By Muhammed Abdullah

On Saturday, April 3, 1993, Aid for Aids of Southern Nevada (AFAN) in conjunction with the African American Advisory Council and 88.1 KCEP's Community Affairs Department, co-sponsored "AIDS and Health Awareness Day."

Nearly 500 people showed up throughout the day at the AFAN West Community Service Center located at 900 W. Owens, Building E. in the Nucleus Plaza Shopping Center Complex.

Numerous community service agencies sent representatives to handout brochures, condoms and address questions concerning AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STD), teen pregnancy, temporary housing facilities for the homeless, AIDS testing and other health



AFAN West, located in the Nucleus Business Plaza, held their Grand Opening Celebration recently.

Photo by Bill Lee

related issues.

According to Gregory Durrett, executive director of AFAN, the grand opening of the AFAN west facility was necessary in order to make available to the African American community a

facility in their own back yard.

"We at AFAN felt that we needed to house a facility in the West Las Vegas area so that we could make available services more accessible to the African

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