

GOVERNOR BOB MILLER

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center.

"I brought the matter up to the Governor in hopes that he might have some ideas for us on fundraising," said Williams. "I knew he and Sandy have always been extremely supportive of what the MLK Committee has accomplished and what we hope to accomplish, but I had not expected that he would personally contribute half of the money we were hoping to raise."

Dr. Tyree Carr, chairman of the Committee's board of Directors, also praised the Governor for his generosity.

"Public officials are always quick to talk about the needs of the West Side and to praise the MLK Committee for the good work we do," said Carr. "But this is the first time I can remember that a public official was willing to step forward and contribute his own personal money."

Although the Governor had originally intended the donation to be anonymous, Williams said he convinced the Governor to allow the committee to use the contribution as the catalyst for a major fundraising drive for the activities of the center. The theme for this fundraiser will be "Governor Miller Challenges You."

"Our goal is not only to get us through until the end of the year, but to keep us going into the next year," Williams said.

In the past two months it has been open, the Martin Luther King Center has become a "stopping point for problem resolution in West Las Vegas," according to Williams. The Center is used for youth recreational activities, a referral base for the Nevada Partners job program, dance classes, youth committee meetings and an information hotline.

For more information on the MLK Center call 631-1913.

LVCVA

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contracts; tracking procedures - she said where levels of utilization of minority firms were lowest, efforts should be made to ensure opportunity and knowledge of how to procure these contracts. Finally, Mayor Jones asked to be pro-Vided with updated data in those areas and in closing she asked about participation of LVCVA in the Disparity Study. Cortez responded that LVCVA would not help fund that study but would be willing to participate in the process by supplying the information that would be requested of them.

Board member Barry Shier suggested that R&R Advertising create a minority program in order to involve more minorities in the process. He also stated that a proactive approach would eliminate any miscommunication of under-representation in the future.

"This issue has been placed

on the back burner long enough. It is time that we take a serious stand on the issue of procurement and the key word is parity," explained Barbara Robinson, community activist and Clark County Library District Board member.

Robinson has been an outspoken advocate of racial parity for many years and a host of concerned community activists have come to the forefront throughout the Las Vegas Valley and Clark County to voice their concerns about racial and ethnic parity. This is not a Johnny-come-lately issue and Robinson, along with Diana Aird, President/owner of Aird and Associates; City of Las Vegas Councilman, Frank Hawkins; Senator Joe Neal; Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce; NAACP; National Association of Latin Americans; Latino Chamber of Commerce and a host of others, have been uniting their efforts to make sure that the ethnic diversity that continues to rise in the nation's fastest growing city, does not exclude minority and woman-owned businesses from securing a part share of the billions of dollars generated annually in the tourist industry in Las Vegas.

Robinson said that statistics show that by the year 2000 there

will be a minority of whites in the state of California and that Las Vegas must begin to get in step with the changing times.

She said that R&R Advertising received 16 million dollars for advertising from LVCVA and had not one African-American on payroll until recently.

"They finally hired an African-American and she happens to be a receptionist," she said.

BLACK COLLEGES

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predominantly black university. The professors and counselors at these universities pump up the students and teach them to love themselves.

He also told the students to make no excuses to fail. "Live your dreams and don't be afraid to go for it," Weekly said. "Utilize your community. You can do anything you want to do."

Mistress of ceremonies

LINKS

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at the home of Link Marcia Smith.

The Links, Inc. is a community service organization which gives scholarships and provides services to the community.

The mentoring program included the following activities: 1. Monthly meetings (varied topics), 2. After school discussion

LVCVA Board member Robert Boughner said that there should be written procedures that should reflect the changes needed in involving minorities in the procurement and contracting process along with a monitoring mechanism that would enable the Board to know at all times what progress is being made and where to make ad-
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Bobbie Troutman, of KCEP radio and a graduate of Southern University, told the audience that back in the 60's blacks couldn't even think of attending a predominantly white university, but today they have options.

"We're with them (students) 100 percent," Troutman said. "We're here to help our young people to understand that if they want to go to a black university, they can."

groups, 3. Field trips, and 4. Special event activities.

Program mentors included Alva Davis, Dorothy Dickerson, Gwen Booker, Edna Perkins, Alice Pearsy, Anna Bailey, Rose Cohen, Rosylnn Guy, Dayle Rogers, Martha Jordon, Lee Morris and Lois Bolden, chairperson.

Link mentoring program participants were Anita Amos, Maya Bennett, Kisha Dillon, Taneka Dixon, Erica Edwards, Michelle Edwards, Natoya Green, Tiffany Grace, Latasha Harris, Victoria Holmes, Triando Hooker, Tiffany Hollins, Latrineka Jackson, Kenyetta Jackson, Arris Jones, Leandra Knight, Micah King, Timica Smith, Shona Williams, Amber Williams, Valeria Williams.

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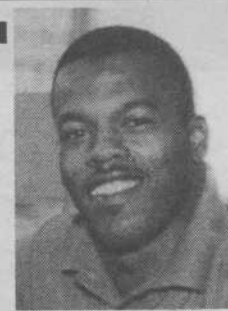
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