

**CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL:
"CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY"**
By Bernice Powell Jackson SEE PAGE 2

♥ *Happy* ♥
Valentine's Day

**"TWO DIFFERENT PLAYERS,
TWO DIFFERENT ERAS"**
By W. G. Ramirez See Page 20

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VOLUME 14, ISSUE 42

BROWN PUBLISHING COMPANY'S AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

FEBRUARY 10, 1994

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

GROUP PLANS FAREWELL PARTY FOR RESIDENTS OF MADISON TERRACE; ATTEMPTS TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ABOUT LIVING CONDITIONS

By Victor S. Ingram

In a final farewell, three former residents of Madison Terrace have committed to provide a community block party for residents of the recently condemned housing complex on Saturday, February 12. Maurice Hayes, 23, Terrell Joiner, 19, and Carl Boyd, 25, have collectively committed to sponsoring a community celebration for outgoing residents of the city housing development. "The party is for the community in support of those who don't have any place to stay," said party coordinator Maurice Hayes.

The complex, which is located in the West Las Vegas area off Madison and Jackson Street, was condemned last month by the city for rodent and insect

infestations. The group said they wanted to sponsor the party to dispel the media's coverage of Madison Terrace as a haven for gangs, crime, and filth.

Media portrayals included week-long news stories documenting the filth and low living standards some residents were living under. News cameras photographed roaches in several residents' refrigerator. Broken fixtures and appliances were also photographed. Complaints of 6 month waits for work orders surfaced. The complex immediately caught the attention of the Las Vegas City Council which orchestrated a condemnation by city building inspectors. Mayor Jan Laverty Jones personally toured the complex along with other council members who looked shocked

when shown existing living conditions. The group, however, refutes the city's decision to condemn the property saying the city acted too hastily and based their actions solely on isolated incidences of residents who did not keep their apartments at an adequate living standard. "The media," said party coordinator Carl Boyd, "went to the worst apartments available and filmed roaches and mice running around." Boyd said the incidents were an aberration and did not represent the majority of residents in the complex, who kept their apartments in a sanitary manner.

The whole effort, says the group, was brought about by the group, Mama Says. Mama Says, according to the group, developed an elaborate media campaign designed to discredit the housing authority, which faced immediate

(See Madison Terrace, Page 11)

COMMUNITY RALLIES BEHIND SANITATION WORKERS



A series of community support rallies for the locked-out and terminated Silver State employees were held last weekend. The terminated workers, locked out in what they labeled as part of management's abrasive policies and procedures, rallied to gain community support and to expose the true facts surrounding the entire issue of misuse of worker's rights. The first rally was held last Saturday at Las Vegas City Hall, while a second was held Sunday at the Nucleus Business Plaza. Future plans for the workers and upcoming strategies were discussed at the rallies. Photo by Paula Irons

1ST ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL ARTS FESTIVAL HELD



Gwen Walker (shown above), co-founder and organizer of the Walker African American Museum & Research Center, hosted the 1st Annual African American Cultural Arts Festival to kick-off the fundraising efforts to build the million dollar museum in the West Las Vegas community.

The festival, held last Saturday and Sunday, February 5th and 6th, contained numerous booths consisting of local and out of state businesses, churches, organizations, community services, and local government officials selling their wares and promoting their services.

"We are already preparing for next year's festival," said Walker, "and we sincerely hope that our local organizations and churches will participate."

The Walker African American Museum & Research Center is a non-profit organization designed to preserve and promote the history of people of African descent.

Photo by Paula Irons

COUNCILMAN HAWKINS DEFENDS ACTION IN WHAT HE CALLS MEDIA GENERATED "GOLF GATE" HYSTERIA

By Victor S. Ingram

Las Vegas City Councilman Frank Hawkins finds himself once again in a defensive posture as he responds to a Golden Nugget Hotel executive who says the hotel participated in his for-profit golf tournament. The tournament, held during the last week of January, has been criticized for its for-profit motives which, according to a letter from Golden Nugget President, Barry Shier, were not clearly communicated to all who participated. Participants paid \$1,000 per person and \$4,000 per foursome to play in the tournament. The Golden Nugget sponsored a foursome in the celebrity tournament which included professional athletes. Shier instructed Hawkins to either return the funds for the tournament or turn them over to a charity. Shier said in a letter addressed last Friday that he thought the tournament was for charity, not for Hawkins' personal gain.

Hawkins has defended his actions as a business transaction which never alluded to nonprofit motives. He re-

sponded to Shier's request by stating he would donate partial proceeds from the tournament to charity. A total of \$8000 was spent by the Golden Nugget and a closely associated company, Atlandia Design. Shier requested funds on behalf of both corporations. The city ethics committee has been

asked by the Mayor to provide clarification on the types of matters city elected officials can participate, yet no announcement of a full inquiry has been made.

Hawkins said he welcomes an inquiry and subsequent clarification on (See Hawkins, Page 11)

YOUTH AGENCIES SCHEDULE SUMMIT, AGREE TO SIGN PACT

Nevada youth agencies will converge on the Community College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne campus, February 15-17 for a 3-day "Nevada Multi-Agency Cooperative Training Summit". As many as 25 teachers, parole and police officers, youth advocates and counselors from the state of Nevada Youth Parole Bureau, Clark County Juvenile Court Services, Clark County School District and private agencies will attend to become certified as instructors of the Las Vegas based "Operation Jett Stream" life-skills development curriculum for at-risk youths.

At a reception on the final day of the

workshop, leaders of participating agencies will sign a historic pact symbolizing a long term commitment to working in harmony to reduce and eliminate problems facing today's youth.

This "Operation Jett Stream" training marks the first time such a diverse group of youth organizations have transcended agency boundaries to adopt common solutions.

Dignitaries, elected officials and the media are invited to the reception to witness the pact signing and hear testimonies from kids who have turned their high-risk lives around after graduating from Nevada youth programs.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SEE PAGES 12 & 13