### **WEEKEND STORMS CAUSE MILLIONS IN DAMAGE**

The weekend storms that dumped enough water to cause flash floods and declare states of emergency in Boulder City and Henderson also dumped costly damages on Southern Nevada. Damage is estimated at approximately \$5.4 million. The weather also caused a storm-related death, weakened roadways, stranded drivers, swept-away vehicles and left more than 9,000 residents without power. In Henderson, repair and cleanup costs will top \$3 million. Boulder City's storm tab is about \$1.85 million. The remaining \$600,000 is needed repairs to Southern Nevada's water delivery system.

#### **ACCUSED KILLER'S MOTHER SUES FORMER EMPLOYER**

A California judge withdrew Monday from a corporate discrimination lawsuit filed by the mother of a teen accused of killing a 7-year-old Los Angeles girl. Orange County Superior Court Judge Richard Frazee excused himself from the proceeding because he knew one of the prospective witnesses, a former manager with Irvine, Calif. defendant, Western Digital Corp. Winifred Strohmeyer, 53, the mother of accused killer Jeremy Strohmeyer, and former colleague Barbara Anderson accused the Fortune 500 company of age discrimination last October after both were laid off. The lawsuit claims that an overseas assignment unfairly kept Winifred Strohmeyer from her son and led to his becoming "withdrawn and unhappy." On May 25, second-grader Sherrice Iverson was sexually assaulted, kidnapped and strangled in an arcade restroom at the Primm Valley hotel, 43 miles south of Las Vegas. Jeremy Strohmeyer, 18, of Long Beach, Calif., is accused of the crime. He faces a first-degree murder charge, first-degree kidnapping and two charges of sexual assault with a minor resulting in substantial bodily harm. Prosecutors indicated they plan to seek the death penalty.

#### **GM'S HIGHEST RANKING BLACK** LEADS BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

Roy Roberts, vice president and general manager, of Pontiac-GMC, was recently named the first African-American National Chairman of the 1997 Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree, held July 28-Aug. 5. Located at Fort A.P. Hill, the Jamboree attracted more than 35,000 participants from more than 30 nations. According to Roberts, minority participation in the Boy Scouts has increased over the last few years. He attributes this in large part to the Scouts' Urban Initiative Project, which is primarily designed to recruit Blacks and Hispanics. "It's about doing the right thing for people, showing that you care about this nation," said Roberts of his involvement with the Jamboree. "Scouting builds character. These young people are going to be our future leaders, so we must get involved," he said.

### THREE SENTENCED FOR **CHURCH CROSS BURNINGS**

Two men and a woman have been sentenced for their roles in a cross burning incident at an Alabama church, the justice department announced recently. William Andrew Brown, Jr., 22 of Heflin, Ala., Sandra Jean Gentry, 27 and Johnny Wayne Brimer, 18, both of Oxford, Ala., admitted to conspiring to burn a wooden cross outside an African-American church. The three said they had selected the church because its membership is black. Brown received a custodial sentence of 24 months in prison; Gentry received 15 months and Brimer got 18 months. All defendants, who were fined \$500 each, will be on parole for three years after their release.

#### REPORT SAYS OLDER WORKERS **HAVE MORE OPPORTUNITES**

The belief that there are few or no job opportunities for older people is a myth, according to a survey conducted by the Association for Outplacement Consulting Firms International. (AOCFI). Members said that job seekers aged 40 to 70 are increasingly in demand by employers wanting experienced workers who they do not have to spend too much time training. In addition, older workers tend to have a better work ethic and bring immediate value to the company, said Rudy Dew of Rudolph Dew and Associates, an AOCFI-member outplacement firm in Torrance, Calif. Survey respondents also said that most of the work opportunities for older workers are found in small to medium-sized growth companies, while the job replacement rates for them are shorter than for other displaced workers. "The need for resourceful and experienced employees has created a lot of opportunity for the older worker," said J. Robert Tank of the AOCFI-member firm Lee Hecht Harrison. Tank said older workers can choose from a variety of jobs as long as they do not make an issue of their age and instead think of it as an asset.

## City-wide penny drive to help feed hungry

By Sharon Y. Savage Sentinel-Voice

A group known for pushing wholesome entertainment hopes to turn all of your spare change into money to feed hungry families.

"Pennies from Heaven City-Wide Penny Drive," seeks to raise one million pennies by the end of September. Sponsored by Ladies Christian Advocating Entertainment (LACE), the program's proceeds will go towards operating costs and stocking the group's pantry with food.

"Everybody has pennies stashed away in jars, cans, purses, bottles or somewhere," said group founder Joyce Eatman Jones. "If we ask for pennies, people will give because pennies turn into nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars." If all Las Vegas Valley residents give one penny, the goal will be reached.

"Ninety percent of the families we assist are families with children," Jones said. "We are asking the community to help us feed the children, because our children have to eat."

Three hundred pennies purchase a case of canned food from the food bank. Presently, LACE feeds 25 to 30 families weekly through a program called "Food For Families."

LACE commits themselves to feeding children. The sevenyear-old non-profit organization was initially established by Joyce Eatman Jones, her two daughters and three other women who wanted to promote quality family

entertainment. To that aim, the group sponsored fashion shows, musical concerts and

Over the years, the organization's focus has

The change started when LACE was asked to help one family with a food basket at Thanksgiving.

A function was held and rather than feeding one family, the group fed 15. The members soon discovered a pressing need to feed hungry families put in dire straits because of jobs lost, separation or other

LACE then pledged to feed one family a week, selling candy, dinners, holding car washes to raise funds. The group sponsored one family a week, providing them at least a week's worth of groceries.

In 1993, the group formed a partnership with the Economic Opportunity Board's (EOB) Project Home. Project Home assists with transitional housing for homeless families. On a weekly basis, Project Home identified families and LACE provided the food, often serving the food out of the trunk of Jones' and other members'

From car trunks to an office at 3355 Spring Mountain Road, LACE has also expanded the scope of its service. In addition to Project Home, referrals come from HELP of Southern Nevada, the Women's Development Center, welfare offices, senior programs and other agencies.

LACE also sells bottled water to raising funds. Jones

PENNY DRIVE . GOAL:

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

LACE founder Joyce Eatman Jones points to the group's goal of collecting one million pennies. The money will go towards the group's efforts to feed hungry families in Southern Nevada.

convinced a California distributor to bottle spring water for the organization. Persistence paid off and the distributor conceded - though initially he was reluctant because the group could not purchase the normal quantity. Partial proceeds from the water sales go toward the feeding program.

"We all need water," Jones said. "And every sip of water is helping to feed a child." For every case of water sold, three cases of food are bought. The remaining money is used to buy more water and other necessities to keep the organization functioning, she

Jones is confident the group will reach its goal of one million pennies. Right now they have collected approximately 700,000. Men are welcome as members. The qualifications for membership: supporting LACE morally, financially and spiritually through prayer.

For more information about how you can get involved, call the LACE office at 362-3387.

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