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Riverside Welcomes Collette Hanna New Marketing Manager, Education Is...Summit, Three Finalists Named for SBVC President Position, Annual Shining Star Awards

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San Bernardino Black Culture Foundation Open House, Recall Organizers Press Conference, and Arrowhead United Way Annual Awards Breakfast

Charlene Johnson owner of Gracious Gatherings near March Air Reserve Base and “Proud Navy Mom”

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This week my family received some exciting news. My husband, Rickerby surprised me when he unexpectedly dropped by my Downtown Riverside office. It’s not that he hasn’t been known to drop by on occasion to take me to lunch, to run in to use our fax machine, to borrow a postage stamp, or just say “hi” in the middle of the day. But this day I could sense something different. He had something to tell me. But instead of simply telling me, he shut my door, pulled out his cellphone, and played a message.

The message was from the chair of his department telling him that he had just been promoted to the rank of full professor. My husband’s next words to me were “I have to call ma.”

The significance of that moment and the role his mother has played in his personal, academic, and professional success did not escape me.

On Sunday we celebrate our mothers, and much like the military moms we are highlighting this week in celebration of Mother’s Day, my mother-in-law Marva Hinds overcame difficult challenges as a young mother. Born in Honduras, as a young married woman, she found herself raising her children primarily on her own. At first because her husband was a merchant marine, at sea for weeks and sometimes months at a time, working on cargo ships in one of the few jobs available to men born on the coast of that impoverished Central American country. And later after his death, when the ship he was crewing went down taking him and 27 other crew members with it.

At the time of her husband’s death, Marva was a young mother, just 30 years old, with four small children. My husband was the oldest at age nine. By this time all of her eight siblings had moved to the United States so she had to rely on a small group of extended family members remaining in Honduras. Four years later she moved to the United States settling in South Los Angeles. She found a job as a CNA with the County of Los Angeles and set out to raise her four children as best she could.

Understanding the importance of education, she somehow put her four children through private school on her meager salary, something my husband still marvels at to this day. Understanding that their mother had done her part, the children all put themselves through college. One daughter, Mishelle, put herself through nursing school eventually receiving her Masters Degree in Nursing, and is currently on the faculty of a university teaching other students her profession. The other daughter, Rosalia, went to graduate school and teaches high school English to disadvantaged students. Her son, Thomas, also finished graduate school and teaches math and science to high school students. And while it took her oldest child over a decade to finish his undergraduate degree, he went on to graduate school at UCLA, and has taken only a decade to move from assistant, to associate, to full professor at UC Riverside, that same university where he spent most of his undergraduate life.

I have had many occasions to hear my mother-in-law talk about her children and how proud she is of them and their achievements. I hope she knows we are proud of her achievements and every time one of her children receives another promotion or award she should know that her mothering helped them achieve it.

To my mother-in-law, my own mother the newly-elected Assembly member Cheryl Brown, and to all mothers who sacrifice and fight for their children’s success as well as our country, Happy Mother’s Day.
Some of you have questioned my opinion for laying some blame of the lack of African American student achievement on San Bernardino School Board Member Danny Tillman and have responded that there is no evidence that our students, and especially African American students, are at the bottom. That feedback brought to mind one of my favorite scriptures: John 14:11, which is about the disciples not believing the evidence of witnessing the miracles that were performed.

For the record, I have strongly supported Danny each and every time he has run for office and when some members in the community began to attack him, I counseled him on how to approach the issue. Now one might have a problem with me as the messenger, but you cannot ignore the message.

That being said, I want to document some of the evidence as recorded by the California Department of Education regarding San Bernardino students. This is in no way a condemnation on the district because there are a lot of good things happening. The district has some new board members President Mike Gallo and Margaret Hill and a new superintendent Dr. Dale Marsden that have committed themselves to providing positive leadership for us to follow. So we should give them adequate time to point this district on the road to success. I am pointing out that when one wants to seek a higher level of public responsibility make sure you at least evaluate your evidence.

We all have heard or at least are familiar with the Academic Performance Index (API) score that is one of the indicators of how well our children are doing in school. A statewide base line score of 800 has been established as a student performing well. As a former school board member I have personal knowledge that these indicators are a basis and not gospel as to how well a district is doing with our children.

A snapshot of student performance in San Bernardino in three critical areas:

**API scores:**
- Blacks 687
- Latinos 723
- Whites 788
- Asians 832

Remember 800 is the baseline score everyone is trying to reach.

**Cohort dropout rate:**
- Blacks 18.8%
- Latinos 14.8%
- Whites 14.7%
- Asians 14.3%

So the question is what is the acceptable number of students who dropout of school?

**Graduation rates:**
- Blacks 67.8%
- Latinos 73.7%
- Whites 76.3%
- Asians 78.6%

This shows that for every 100 Black students attending school over 30 of them will not get a high school diploma.

Without a diploma, these students will find that decent employment is out of reach for them and with a 12.4% unemployment rate in the city and employers seeking candidates with some college education, these students are doomed.

Yes, this is my opinion. You might not believe me, but at least believe the documented evidence.

Don’t Forget to Vote for Norma Torres for State Senate District 32 by Tuesday
Riverside Welcomes New Marketing Manager

Riverside

The City of Riverside Office of Economic Development recently welcomed Collette Hanna who was hired as the City’s Marketing Manager, a key position on the economic development team. The Economic Development teams main goal is to help businesses create jobs for the Riverside community.

Hanna has worked in marketing for over 15 years – eight of those in economic development marketing. Her most recent economic development role was as Business Development Manager with the City of Victorville, where she managed all marketing and communications, incentive programs, and developed programs for attracting businesses to the city. Her efforts helped bring several companies and employers to Victorville, including Dr. Pepper Snapple Group and Church and Dwight (makers of Arm & Hammer consumer products), as well as other manufacturing, retail, and residential developments.

“Collette brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to our economic development team,” stated Assistant City Manager Deanna Lorson. “Her passion for marketing combined with her experience in economic development made her our top candidate to be leading the effort of telling Riverside’s story to the world.”

Hanna was chosen following a highly competitive recruitment. “I am very excited to join the economic development team at City of Riverside. It is a great city with a highly-respected economic development program; I look forward to leading marketing efforts that celebrate Riverside’s many great assets.”

Collette has also managed marketing and public relations for a non-profit housing agency in the Bay Area, and was Sr. Marketing Manager for Lucent Technologies. During the time at both companies she developed platforms for the launch of technology products, created and managed several successful events that resulted in record attendance, and managed brand messaging within both organizations. Ms. Hanna has an MBA from Pepperdine University, and a B.A. in Economics from San Diego State University.

Residential Assessment Program

San Bernardino

In its ongoing effort to mitigate the destructive effects of wildland fires, The San Bernardino County Fire Department is offering to its residents a no-cost evaluation of their property’s defensible space.

On May 1st, County Fire will be launching its Residential Assessment Program (RAP) promoting hazard reduction around homes that exist in our mountain, wildland, and watershed communities. This outreach program is mutually beneficial in that it assists homeowners while increasing both the effectiveness of fire suppression efforts and firefighter safety.

When wildfires threaten residential communities, there are many steps homeowners can take well in advance that help to reduce the chance of catastrophic loss. One of the best ways to prepare is by creating defensible space. Defensible space is the removal and/or trimming of fuels around the property that allow wildfires to burn up to and consume homes. Some steps to creating this space include clearing all dead vegetation, cutting limbs from trees that are between ground level and six feet in height as well as limbs that overhang roofs, and moving wood piles and other combustibles away from the sides of structures. This perimeter should extend 100 feet from the house or to the property line.

In the coming weeks, San Bernardino County Fire Department will be out in the community going door-to-door handing out information and, should any resident desire, offering to walk the properties with the homeowners. During these visits, firefighters will provide specific advice on how best to create defensible space for your house. These visits are free of charge and without penalty. Firefighters will be unable to provide physical labor, however information on various programs will be available.

To schedule an assessment of your home’s property, you may contact our Office of the Fire Marshall at 909-386-8400.

For more information on how you can best prepare yourself for wildland fires and other safety topics, please visit www.sbcfire.org and click on Safety Preparedness.

“Education Is...” Summit

“EDUCATION is...” will be a great opportunity for the students, parents, educators and community members to build their understanding of what it takes to advocate for the academic success of all children.

The entire event is FREE and open to all ages. Breakfast, lunch and childcare will be provided. There will be a variety of workshops for participants to choose from that will build their understanding of what it takes to advocate for the academic success for all children.

Saturday, May 18, 2013
8:30 am-2:30 pm
San Bernardino Valley College, 701 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92410

Keynote speaker Dr. Kennon Mitchell
Assistant Superintendent
San Bernardino City Unified School District

For more information call (909) 915-1716 or (909) 521-8404 Register at www.1EEducationIS.org
Three Finalists Named for SBVC President Position
San Bernardino

Three higher education administrators from the Inland Empire have been named as finalists to become the 13th permanent president at San Bernardino Valley College. The three candidates appeared at an open forum last week organized by the SBVC Academic Senate. The candidates are:

Dr. Barbara Blanchard has been a part of the California Community College system for over 20 years. She began as an adjunct faculty teaching computer science courses at Palomar College and then moved into a full-time faculty position in the computer information science department at Solano Community College. Barbara served as dean of business, computer science and information technology at American River College for 13 years and served for approximately one year as the interim vice president of student services before moving to Grossmont College as the vice president of academic affairs.

Barbara served as the accreditation liaison officer at Grossmont College and as a volunteer for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) on external site visits. She has also been involved in the strategic and educational master plan processes from development through implementation at both American River College and Grossmont College. Dr. Blanchard’s involvement in leadership development includes professional development and mentoring programs at the campus level and throughout the state as a coordinator of the mentor program of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA).

Barbara Blanchard received two bachelor’s degrees in science from the University of Illinois and a master’s degree in management information systems at the University of Arizona. She proceeded to earn a doctorate in education from the University of California, Davis, after defending a dissertation on the issues community college faculty face surrounding the increasing numbers of under-prepared students in the classroom.

Dr. Edward Bush has over 18 years of experience in higher education with 15 of those years with the Riverside Community College District. Dr. Bush currently serves as the vice president of student services for Riverside City College. He has served as an associate faculty member in student activities, director of the educational talent search federal TRIO grant, and dean of student services. In addition, he has served on numerous college and district-wide committees and has been active with several community organizations including serving on the board for two non-profit foundations. Dr. Bush has also worked as an adjunct instructor for the Graduate School of Education at the University of Redlands and Brandman University. Dr. Bush has taught courses in student development, organizational theory, and research.

Dr. Edward Bush is a published author with 8 peer reviewed publications and is the co-author of the recently released book The Plan: A Guide for Women Raising African American Boys from Conception to College. Dr. Bush is a sought-after speaker and has been an invited presenter at numerous conferences, including the National Association of Black School Educators, the National Association of African American Studies, the Institute for Race Relations, and the National Convening of Postsecondary Education Support Programs for Former Foster Youth.

Dr. G.H. Javaheripour was appointed vice president of administrative services and campus business office at the Victor Valley Community College District in December of 2008. The District educates more than 14,000 credit and noncredit students. Dr. Javaheripour has guided the district’s finances by presenting balanced budgets and increasing reserves, while minimizing the effect of the funding reductions by the state.

Under his guidance, the district constructed a large facility dedicated to public safety programs, updated several aged facilities, and implemented large scale sustainability and energy production/conservation initiatives. As the result of these efforts, the California Community College Board of Governors has selected Victor Valley College as the recipient of the District Leadership in Energy and Sustainability award. Dr. Javaheripour has also been instrumental in updating the information technology and management information systems and infrastructure to improve service to students and instructional capacities at the college.

His career spans the academic, student services and administrative services arena. Celebrating his 34th year of service to public education, Dr. Javaheripour began his higher education career at the University of New Mexico. His community college career includes positions at Gallup Community College and Santa Fe Community College in New Mexico, and Chabot College and Victor Valley College in California. He has served at the policy level for the past 23 years and in executive capacities for the past 13 years. He received his bachelor’s of science degree in occupational education from Southern Illinois University, master’s degree in business administration from Webster University, and a doctorate of education from the University of New Mexico.
Foster Youth Awareness Month 3rd Annual Shining Star Awards

Rialto

M adea’s Big Happy Family fans are in for a heartfelt experience on Saturday morning during the 3rd Annual Shining Star Awards hosted by The Brightest Star, Inc., benefiting the mission of building dreams and the self esteem of children and teens in foster care. Award winning, actress Natalie Desselle Reid, who played Tammy in the Tyler Perry film, will be mistress of ceremonies, honoring thirteen outstanding individuals for their dedication and commitment to children in foster care.

The Shining Star Awards recognizes deserving individuals who have gone above and beyond for neglected, abused, abandoned and at-risk youth. “Our 13 honorees are the kind of amazing shining stars that inspire and quietly light up the lives of children,” said Lea Michelle Cash, executive director of The Brightest Star (TBS). “We are happy to shine a light on these extraordinary, largely unsung individuals and bring awareness to children thriving in foster care during National Foster Care Awareness month.”

This year’s honorees are: Brandon Miller, Former Foster Youth-California State University; Danny Mendoza, President & CEO -Together We Rise; Fonda McGensy, Director Operation Safe House; Jamilda Bell, Supervising Agency Social Worker-Avant-Garde Foster Family Agency; Jacqueline White, WIA Program Director-Provisional Accelerated Learning (PAL) Center; Jonel Lamonte, RN, County of San Bernardino Juvenile Court-Behavioral Health Services; Kathy Turnbull, Assistant Network Officer-San Bernardino County Children’s Network; Karen Bass, Congresswoman U.S. Representative for California’s, 33rd Congressional District; Luke Madrigal, Executive Director- Indian Child and Family Services; Parish A. Knox, Attorney, Past-Board of Director President-Current Board of Director/California Youth Connection; Trinity Wallace-Ellis, Motivational Speaker, Advocate Foster Care Alumni of America, Southern California CA President- San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Consultant; Wandalyn Lane-Williams, Program Coordinator, Valley Star Children and Family Services, and Zena (Zell) Johnson, Intake Coordinator-McKinley Children’s Center.

The special event will be held on May 18, 2013 at the Fontana Hilton Garden Inn located at 105343 Sierra Avenue. The time is 9:00 -11:30 AM. Tickets are $25.00 and can be purchased on the donation page of www.thebrighteststar.org. Breakfast, gift bags, and entertainment are provided. Celebrity guests are expected to attend.

For information regarding The Brightest Star, Inc., the Shining Star Awards and/or National Foster Care Awareness Month, please call the organization: (909) 875-2968.
Two years ago, we launched Joining Forces, a nationwide campaign to rally all Americans to support our veterans and military families. We did this for two simple reasons: because we were both awed by the courage and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform who risk their lives every day to protect our values and keep us safe. We were also awed by their families, the spouses and children who serve right along with them, enduring deployment after deployment with grace and resolve.

As we traveled the country visiting bases and military communities, everywhere we went, we heard from veterans who had years of training and experience in the military -- leading dozens, even hundreds of their peers; operating some of the most advanced technology; and solving complex problems under the most extreme conditions imaginable. But when they returned home, they struggled to find decent jobs. We met military spouses who'd spent decades moving from base to base every couple of years and struggled to maintain their careers. As the months passed, we saw that the unemployment rate for our most recent veterans remained far too high above the national average.

These men and women are some of the highest-skilled, best-trained, hardest-working people in this country. They are medics and engineers, drivers and welders, computer technicians and machinists. They are eager to work and determined to keep on serving this country. All they need is a chance.

But the challenge of giving them that chance is only becoming more urgent. In the coming years, more than a million servicemembers will be hanging up their uniforms and transitioning to civilian life. That's on top of the hundreds of thousands of veterans and military spouses already out there looking for work.

That's why, back in August of 2011, President Obama challenged the private sector to hire more than 100,000 veterans by the end of 2013. Last year, businesses responded by hiring more than 175,000 veterans and spouses. So today, we need business leaders across this country to ask themselves, “What can my company do for these men and women who have served our country so bravely?”

By First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden

So today, we need business leaders across this country to ask themselves, “What can my company do for these men and women who have served our country so bravely?”
sector to hire or train 100,000 veterans and military spouses by the end of 2013. And over the past two years, businesses across America have answered that call. By last August, they had already filled 125,000 jobs, with commitments to hire 250,000 more. And today, we are proud to announce that America’s businesses have hired or trained 290,000 veterans and military spouses, almost triple the original goal. In addition, companies like Wal-Mart, UPS, Home Depot, the Blackstone Group, Target, and McDonald's have committed to hire or train another 435,000 veterans and military spouses over the next five years.

So we're making real progress. We're encouraged that the unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans dropped by 2.2% in 2012. But it is still too high; because as long as any veteran or military spouse who needs a job is unable to find one, then we still have work to do.

That's why, in his budget, President Obama proposed a permanent extension of the tax credits he signed into law for businesses that hire unemployed veterans and wounded warriors. We’ve also been working with governors and state legislators to revamp state laws to give our troops credit for the skills they’ve learned in the military when they apply for professional licenses and credentials here at home. In addition, we've created new partnerships between the armed forces and the manufacturing and information technology industries to ensure that our servicemembers are trained for good jobs.

But ultimately, it's up to our companies to actually hire veterans for these jobs. So today, we need business leaders across this country to ask themselves, "What can my company do for these men and women who have served our country so bravely?" If you own a small business, can you commit to hiring a few veterans -- or even just one? If you own a larger company, can you hire a few hundred -- or a few thousand? Can you retrain the veterans already in your workforce so they can grow within your company? Can you team up with other businesses to hire the veterans in your communities?

This is an all-hands-on-deck issue, and we cannot rest until every single veteran and military spouse who is searching for a job has found one. These men and women have sacrificed so much for all of us. Now is the time for all of us to come together to serve them as well as they have served this country.

**SUBMIT YOUR POINT OF VIEW**

The Point of View (POV) is your opportunity to VOICE your opinion on topics and issues of concern to you as well as the larger community. If you are interested in submitting a commentary in the POV section please send your 350 – 500 word commentary, photo and bio to staff@blackvoicenews.com. Please include all relevant contact information. Also, to subscribe to our digital edition visit: http://issuu.com/brownpublishingco/docs.
INLAND EMPIRE ALLIANCE OF BLACK SCHOOL EDUCATORS SPONSORS HIGH SCHOOL BLACK GRADUATION
May 9, 2013
Inland Empire Alliance of Black School Educators will host its 3rd annual High School Black Graduation. The event is held annually for African-American high school graduates within the Inland Empire community, with the goal of honoring their accomplishments with a cultural celebration that includes their extended family and organizations who traditionally serve the African-American community. Scholarships are awarded to many of the participants.

The event will be held from 6 – 8 pm at California State University, San Bernardino. For more information email IEABSE@gmail.com.

FONTANA’S GOT TALENT FOR TEENS
May 10, 2013
The lights are on, the curtains are drawn, the stage is ready and the audience is waiting to be entertained by Fontana’s most talented teens. Mayor Acquanetta Warren and the Fontana City Council would like to invite Fontana teens ages 11 to 18 to participate and come out to see tomorrows stars compete at the Fontana’s Got Talent, Teen Talent Show on May 10th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Steelworkers’ Auditorium (8437 Sierra Ave.).

Participants can enter as a solo or as a group act (2 to 6 people) to showcase their vocal, instrumental, dance or theatre/drama talents. Acts have a maximum performance time of three minutes to dazzle the Mayor’s Youth Council judges to win first, second and third place prizes for both solo acts and group acts. This grand showcase of talents will amaze the audience with their one of a kind abilities!

Pre-registration is required. To register for the show visit either the Jack Bulik Teen Center (16851 Filbert St.) or the Art Depot Gallery (16822 Spring St.). Registration ends April 26th.

For the Teen Talent Show details visit arts.fontana.org or youth.fontana.org.

SB CHAPTER OF THE LINKS INCORPORATED SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST BALL
May 11, 2013
Join the San Bernardino Chapter of the Links Inc. May 11, 2013 for their 35th Scholarship Breakfast Ball at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario.

They will honor 2013 high school seniors from San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Proceeds from the scholarship breakfast support Links programs including scholarships used to assist students in achieving their college education and career goals. Tickets are $45.00. Please call 909-875-0614 if you would like to attend the event. Since 1979, the organization has awarded over $350,000 in scholarships.

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP GALA
Friday, May 13, 2013
Community Action Partnership Gala - “Helping Families Improving Communities.” Location: National Orange Show Events Center - Valencia Ballroom - San Bernardino, CA. Silent Auction, Raffle & Mixer - 6:00pm; Dinner and Program - 7:00pm; Dancing until 12 Midnight. Purchase Tickets by calling (909) 723-1517 or buy online by May 10, 2013 at www.capsbc.org.

FREE HEALTHY MEAL PREP CLASSES
Friday, May 13, 2013
The Necessary Nutrition Academy’s free Healthy Meal Prep class is designed for those who want to improve their health and overall well being using real food and nutrition. This class is held the 2nd Monday of the Month at 6:30 pm. Location: 3985 University Avenue, Riverside, CA. Cost: Free. Space is limited. Reservations Required. Reserve your spot today. Visit www.Necessary-Nutrition.com or call 951-259-5198 to register for the next class.

BLESSED MAN OF GOD
May 19, 2013
Bishop Philip Powell will be honored as a Blessed Man of God on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 10:45AM and 4:00PM, at the Centre at Highland located at 1672 Palm Ave, Highland. Come and celebrate. For more information please contact Elder Spencer or Sister Bowser at 909.425.2615.

4TH INLAND EMPIRE AFRICAN-AMERICAN GRADUATION CELEBRATION
May 19, 2013
The Corona Community AME Church Education Task Force and the Inland Empire Family Community Project are sponsoring the 4th Inland Empire African-American Graduation Celebration to highlight and celebrate graduating high school seniors in Riverside County. The event will be held at the Corona Historic Civic Center Theater, 815 W. Sixth Street, Corona from 4 pm – 6 pm. For more information call 951.545.4117 or email blackgraduation@aol.com.
CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT
May 23, 2013
Approximately 500 students will walk during the 2013 Crafton Hills College (CHC) Commencement to be held in the Campus Quad on Thursday, May 23, beginning at 6 p.m. During the commencement celebration, approximately 600 degrees and certificates will be have been earned and handed out for the fall 2012 and spring 2013 semesters. This community celebration is open to the public and parking is free on campus that evening. The event should conclude by 7:30 p.m.

Commencement is a ceremony that recognizes certificate and degree earners alike. Students may be awarded an associate's degree or a certificate. Students who are “graduating with honors” have a cumulative GPA of 3.50-3.99 at the end of the term in which they have applied for graduation. Those “graduating with highest honors” have a cumulative GPA of 4.0 at the end of the term in which they have applied for graduation.

Dear Dr. Levister: I heard an ad on the radio for a product called “Amberen” which claims to relieve menopausal symptoms. I read some of the reviews but I fear they could be fabricated. Do you see any red flags? Is this worth a try? M.P.

Dear M.P.: Transitioning into Menopause is often the most frustrating period in a woman’s life. This is because unlike other life transitions, the effects of Menopause can last for years. Typical symptoms of Menopause include: hot flashes, mood swings, night sweats, decreased libido, loss of energy, decreased concentration, memory loss and weight gain. Unfortunately, all of these typical symptoms can occur simultaneously which often results in a feeling of one’s life being out of control.

While some women prefer to use prescription hormone therapy to alleviate some of these symptoms, many find that side effects of HRT (hormone replacement therapy) are worse than those of Menopause. Additionally, women who use hormone replacement therapy also increase their risk for heart attacks, blood clots, and breast cancer which is why so many women have started using safe and effective natural supplements to help control their Menopausal symptoms.

The best natural Menopausal supplements include ingredients which have been shown to help alleviate the symptoms of Menopause without producing side effects. Natural Menopausal treatment supplements are not only able to reduce common symptoms such as hot flashes and mood swings, but they are also able to help increase a woman’s libido, energy level, and improve their immune system.

Amberen is a product that is said to help relieve menopausal symptoms, but typical ingredients found in Amberen’s competitors (like Black Cohosh and Chasteberry) are not used in Amberen. The manufacturer of Amberen states that the product is an all-natural-menopause that contains the active ingredient, Ammonium Succinate. The rest of the formulation also consists of salts and amino acids.

The manufacturer of Amberen provides a full ingredient list for customers to review. The manufacturer of Amberen also claims that the product has undergone decades of studies for safety and efficacy, but it is hard to determine when specific testing on Amberen as a whole actually began.

I am not recommending Amberen or any of its competitors; however, my initial review of this product does not reveal obvious red flags. A trial run probably won’t hurt you.

Allen Chapel AME Church would like to formally welcome its new pastor, Reverend Noella Austin Buchanan and her husband, Reverend Dr. Morris Buchanan, spiritual advisor of Allen Chapel, Back to the Inland Empire. The couple recently returned to the area from pastoring one of the leading churches in St. Louis, St. James AME Church. Prior to that assignment Rev. Buchanan established the missions-centered Corona AME Church, where she is still very highly esteemed.

Reverend Buchanan accepted her assignment to pastor Allen Chapel in November of last year and since that time, she has established several outreach programs designed to reach youth, seniors and homeless persons in the community. "Reverend Noe", as she is affectionately called, hit the ground running, and under her leadership the church has experienced a tremendous spiritual rebirth. Dozens have united with the church under her leadership by rededication, re-affiliation, and many have come as new Christians. The church congregation invites you to study God’s word with us on Sundays at 9:00 and to stay for morning worship service, which begins at 10:15; On 1st Sunday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00, there is Communion Service for those who cannot attend in the morning, Allen Chapel AMEC is also active during the week: on Tuesdays the Women’s Missionary Society provides hot meals and clothing for those in need; on Wednesdays we have two dynamic Bible Study sessions—at 10:00a.m. and 6:00p.m.

In the coming weeks we have a series of outings planned for youth and young adults: Friday, May 17 is Family Night with food and games for all; on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 16, our Men’s Chorus will be featured during the morning service; June 19-21 is Vacation Bible School, June 28 is our Women’s Revival featuring Evangelist Carrie Holden Bias from Los Angeles, followed by our Annual Women’s Conference on Saturday, June 29 where guest speakers discuss relevant community issues. Please mark your calendar and join us.

If you are new to the area and in search of a church home, consider Allen Chapel. We are located 4009 Locust in Downtown Riverside; (951) 686-9406. The Church’s office hours are Tuesday-Friday 10:00-2:00 p.m.
When Moreno Valley resident and city government watchdog Deanna Reeder learned of last week’s early morning raid by the Inland Regional Corruption Task Force of the city’s mayor and councilmembers’ homes, the corporate offices of a local developer, and one of his associates, she immediately emailed the news to her list of community members with the subject line simply stating “Hallelujah!” Her email moniker “stopvotesforsale” summarizes her mission over the past several years.

Reeder is arguably one of the most vocal critics of the relationship between the city’s largest developer and campaign contributor Highland Fairview’s CEO Ido Benzeevi and the city councilmembers and city staff he seems to wield significant influence over. And she is one of the community members who have been patiently waiting for years for this action by law enforcement.

A constant fixture at Moreno Valley City Hall, along with her husband Kenny Bell, Reeder admits that she filed a corruption complaint with State Attorney General Kamala Harris’ office last year. She is aware of other community members who have also filed complaints, including former councilman Bill Batey.

“I think the Attorney General has gotten subsequent complaints. I think the IRS has gotten subsequent complaints. I am not the only person who has complained,” she said.

Last Tuesday, the task force of FBI, IRS, US Attorney General, and Riverside County DA agents served search warrants at the homes of current Moreno Valley Mayor Tom Owings, city council members Jesse Molina, Victoria Baca, Marcelo Co and Richard Stewart, real estate
broker and campaign contributor Jerry Stephens, and Benzeevi’s corporate offices.

The agencies have not commented on the details of the warrants and no arrests have been made, but corruption allegations in Moreno Valley have been widely reported in the local press and continuously addressed by citizens and community leaders in public forums.

In October of last year when the council voted to amend the fees the city charges developers, critics argued that the inclusion of a new category “large-scale warehouses” was exclusively for the benefit of Benzeevi’s Highland Fairview. The developer’s most recent proposal is a mega warehouse complex World Logistics Center, which would include his already completed 1.8 million-square-foot Skechers distribution center.

Critics, including Batey, have also publicly speculated that former City Attorney Robert Hansen’s unexpected retirement late last year could have been connected to legal opinions he expressed regarding a Benzeevi project.

And as recently as January 2013, when Councilman Stewart was not reappointed to the March Joint Powers Authority Commission by current Mayor Owings, he claimed it was because he supported March LifeCare, a large-scale medical campus near March ARB that would provide competition with a health care corridor Benzeevi is developing near Riverside Regional Medical Center in Moreno Valley.

“It started with (former councilmen) Charles White and Frank West,” said Bonnie Flickinger who served on the Moreno Valley City Council from 1992-2010 including several terms as mayor. Both White and West were ousted when well-funded Benzeevi-supported candidates ran against them.

“If you step on his toes,” she said speaking of Benzeevi, “he will come after you.” Something she knows all too well. “I asked too many questions, defended the taxpayers when I saw him manipulating city staff to his benefit, and paid the price.” She lost her re-election bid to the Benzeevi-supported candidate current Councilman Co. Hearing the news of last week’s search warrants, “the popular and very widespread position has been, why has it taken so long?” she said.

“As a former elected official I am proud of what I was able to accomplish for the city of Moreno Valley,” she said. But after serving the city for almost two decades, Flickinger is focused on Crime and Intelligence Analysis and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and looking forward to an internship with the Riverside County Sheriff’s Department.

“The future of the city,” she said, “will depend on the results of the corruption probe and if indictments and arrests are eventually made.”

Deanna Reeder believes the future will also depend on the involvement of citizens. When asked if she believes this would have occurred if there had been more community involvement in local government, Reeder said the information is out there but not readily accessible.

“Plus,” she said, “Moreno Valley is a bedroom community. They commute to LA County and they commute to San Diego County. They’re reading papers in LA County, Orange County, and San Diego County. They spend most of their time somewhere else…”

Longtime Moreno Valley resident and community activist Juanita Barnes agrees, “A lot of the people knew what was going on but if we don’t stand together and fight corruption, one person alone won’t be able to do it. A lot of people were laughing about what happened in Bell, but look at what is happening to us now.”

“People have to be more politically minded. You just can’t go to work, go home and shut the door. We have to be engaged in the community,” she said.

On Tuesday, exactly one week after the initial search warrants were served, Mayor Owings issued a written statement welcoming the opportunity to speak to the convening Grand Jury and pledging to fight for the city’s reputation and the restoration of the residents’ trust in their city government.

Chinwe Oniah and VOICE staff contributed to this story.
Having been an active duty member, wife and mother, the challenges were many, however Verretta Johnson’s greatest challenge and heartache was when she received orders to go to Panama and she was not allowed to bring her family.

At the time she had two sons were 5 and 2 years old and as a mother in the military, that is the last thing you want to receive...“Remote Tour Orders”. “I was blessed to have my mother, sister and brother to take care of my sons for a full year while I was away. Having to leave my young children was the most difficult thing I have ever had to do in my life.”

Now Verretta is a fleet safety and training instructor at Omnitrans who also serves as Air Force Active Reserve. She first joined the military just before she turned 22.

“I was living in Oxnard with my parents and knew that I wanted more. I loved being around people. I loved to travel and wanted a career. I didn’t want to be that person who spends her entire life in the same little town she grew up in. So I went down to the recruiting office and signed up for the Air Force.”

For years she was stationed in Riverside, never imagining she would ever be involved in a war. Then everything changed with Operation Just Cause. Verretta was given orders for Panama and instructed that her family would not be allowed to come with her.

“When I arrived there I immediately knew why. Huge tanks, demolished buildings and cement barricades were everywhere.

Verretta Johnson, A military mom still going strong after 50
By Juno Kughler Carlson

As an active duty service member, biggest challenge was not just for your family. And having two parents stationing is as difficult. My husband and I were stationed in Norfolk/Virginia Beach area which was about sixteen years. I served in Japan and now California.

Being active duty does not mean you don’t have a life. I could not have accomplished it without my family. We found a sense of balance when we were stationed in Norfolk/Virginia Beach area we regularly attended church services and A school. We found a sense of balance through church and the community.

Being active duty demands a lot from you especially as you move up in rank. It takes some creative juggling to balance your family life and career. Sometimes you have to make tough decisions, which could disappoint your family. I could not have accomplished it without my family. And having two parents in active duty is twice as difficult. My husband and I were stationed in Norfolk/Virginia Beach area which was about sixteen years.

Sometimes I wish I were still in the Armed Forces because financially I was more than stable. But it taught me maturity and how to value my family, since I had to be apart from them for long periods of time. I am a 21-year-old married woman of three beautiful baby girls (Serenity, Harmonie, and Honestie). I did for my country, for my family, and now I’m doing for me.

My parents were both teenage parents when I was born. My mother was 15 and my father was 17 when they found out they were going to be parents. Within a couple months, they were married, my mom had just turned 16 and my dad was 18. I had a wonderful life being that my dad was in the military.

I grew up at Cross Word Christian Church in Moreno Valley and my parents thought being involved would save my life. I maintained excellent grades in school, but being a typical teenager I always wanted to do what my parents did not want me to.

At the age of 16, I found out that I was pregnant. I was scared. I named my child Serenity. Serenity’s name came from my mother’s supervisor she gave her the Serenity prayer and I agreed that’s what I needed in my mother and my life.

I knew I needed to change my life for my daughter, I didn’t want to turn out like people I knew or grew up with. I could go to any university I wanted to with the grades and SAT scores I had, but I chose the US NAVY.

I brought the papers for my parents to sign along with the court papers to give the guardianship of my 6-month-old daughter. Two weeks later, I left for boot camp and A school. After two months, I saw my daughter for the first time for only three days. When I saw her I cried and held her tight but she didn’t remember me and was scared of me.

The next time I saw my daughter she was 15-months-old. I was stationed in San Diego where she lived with me but mostly she lived with my parents in Moreno Valley.

Later, I had my daughter Harmonie with my then fiancé. I told myself that I set my children’s life forever by only doing a few years in the service. Now at 21-years-old, a U.S. Vet, and married, my husband and I just welcomed a baby girl, Honestie a few weeks ago.

Sometimes I wish I were still in the Armed Services because financially I was more than stable. But it taught me maturity and how to value my family, since I had to be apart from them for long periods of time. I am a 21-year-old married woman of three beautiful baby girls (Serenity, Harmonie, and Honestie). I did for my country, for my family, and now I’m doing for me.

Being active duty demands a lot from you especially as you move up in rank. It takes some creative juggling to balance your family life and career. Sometimes you have to make tough decisions, which could disappoint your family. I could not have accomplished it without my family. We found a sense of balance through church and the community.

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I would wake up to the sounds of bombs dropping. It was a definite life changer for me. The bowling alley became the morgue. The supply warehouse for cold storage held the bodies. I woke up early one morning and saw a flatbed truck piled with body bags. It was a nightmare. Houses and apartment complexes were being blown to pieces while they were looking for Noriega.

"After 7 months I was finally allowed to go home to see my children. My mom hadn’t been letting them watch TV because the oldest knew where I was, and they were always showing pictures of Panama burning and all that. The hardest part came when I finally had to go back. My son grabbed leg, screamed and cried. It broke my heart, and I promised him I would never leave him again. Soon after, the Air Force began downsizing and offering people the opportunity to get out of the military. So I left active duty."

"When my youngest son Dorjon joined the Navy in 2009, with the support of my husband, I reenlisted back into the Air Force Reserves at the age of 50. I am currently assigned to the 457 LRS at March Air Reserve Base."

Veretta, the grandmother
Heavenbound

Review by Sonja Brown

The first lady of television comedy, Marla Gibbs, comedian Michael Colyar, Jacob Lusk from American Idol season 10, Chico Benymon from sitcom “Half and Half”, Abraham McDonald discovered by Oprah Winfrey, Brely Evans from “Sparkle” and the legendary Freda Payne lit-up the stage of the Wilshire Ebell Theatre in Los Angeles during their recent performance in Heavenbound to an enthusiastic crowd and anxious fans. The Gospel play was written, directed and produced by Don B. Welch.

Set in a place called “almost-in-heaven”, five Christians who have passed away, are waiting in a room just outside of heaven to give their life testimony, sing a song or both in order to become a part of “The Beams of Heaven” gospel choir. These five characters come from various backgrounds and as each tell why they deserve to become a “Beam”, most people could probably identify with at least one of the characters in some way.

One by one the audience was introduced to the characters who would give us a glimpse of their past while justifying their rightful place in the heavenly choir. Marla Gibbs served as the “gatekeeper” and it was her job to enforce the rule to these potential “Beams” that they sing or give their life testimony as well as follow the rules of the holding room just outside of heaven.

The Gospel singing was so captivating that it was easy to not notice that there were no set or wardrobe changes for the entire play with only the Gatekeeper changing her gown from purple to black during the intermission. This audience was part of something like a revival and none of the traditional theatre play protocol applied to viewers. The music, the singing, and the choir dressed in all white perched in the choir stands was the right combination to let viewers get a peek into what Heaven really could be like.

Don B. Welch has many credits to his name as a singer, actor, writer, director, playwright, producer and now author. He has had co-starring roles on “The Fresh Prince of Bel Air”, “Cosby” as well as independent films. He has written and directed over 19 productions and worked with such notables as Loretta Divine, Vanessa Bell Calloway, Dorian Wilson, Kenny Lattimore, Dawnn Lewis, Tatyana Ali, Ginuwine, and Flex Alexander. He is often compared to Tyler Perry, “It used to bother me, because we really are nothing alike. His journey is his journey and my journey has been mine,” states Welch. “But, I have come to understand that the general public needs a comparison. They need to be able to identify what one does with an example that is easily accepted and understood. So, it’s fine. I respect Mr. Perry’s journey, he has worked very hard to do that no one else from this genre has been able to do in the Black community,” he continued.

Mr. Welch and his team will begin production of a feature film “The Divorce” next week.
**SB Black Culture Foundation Holds Open House**

The San Bernardino Black Culture Foundation recently held an open house at the Henderson Auditorium of San Bernardino Community Hospital to report on the Foundation’s continuing programs for promoting African American culture. The next project will be a workshop on June 8, 2013 regarding financial aid opportunities and resources for higher education. Although the SBBCF has awarded approximately $300,000 in scholarships to high school graduates from local schools, the scholarship needs are growing faster than scholarship income. The SBBCF committees meet monthly at the SB Community Hospital. Leaders, volunteers, contributors, and anyone interested can reach the SBBCF at P.O. Box 7288, San Bernardino, CA 92410, calling 909.888.1696 or visiting their website at www.sbbcfoundation.org. Text and Photo by John Coleman

(l-r) Tammy Martin-Riles, President Inland Cities East Chapter, Southern California Black Chamber of Commerce; Navarre Bell, Media Director, ICEC, SCBCOC, Genevieve G. Echols, President SBBCF, Inc; Troy Ingram, 1st Vice President SBBCF; Jessica Garcia, Treasurer, SBBCF; and Evelyn Gonzales, Secretary, SBBCF

**San Bernardino Recall Organizers Hold Press Conference**

Over 100 community members and representatives from local media outlets attended the press conference on the Total Recall of San Bernardino elected officials. Recall organizers were available to talk to the media and city leadership after the announcement was made on the steps of the San Bernardino City Hall.

**Arrowhead United Way Annual Awards**

The Arrowhead United Way held its annual meeting and awards celebration on May 2nd at the National Orange Show Event Center in San Bernardino. Established in 1981, Arrowhead United Way is a volunteer-driven organization that actively supports health and human services by focusing on education, income, and health. These services address the underlying causes of the community’s issues and create lasting change. The organization was established in 1891 and is led by prominent respected community leaders; it is one of the oldest United Ways in the country.

1-Doug Rowland, Arrowhead United Way CEO; Dave Marion, Outgoing Board Chair; and Brian Townsend, Incoming Board Chair. 2-Over 250 community leaders attended the event honoring donors who support the community.
Black NHL Players on the Rise

Anaheim Ducks Devante Smith-Pelly brought up for NHL playoff run

Anaheim
By Jon D. Gaede

The National Hockey League commences its playoff season in May and there are 26 active Black players on NHL rosters. The most recent is 2010 Anaheim Duck draft choice, Devante Smith-Pelly.

The young winger did not have to break any barriers. There have been several Black hockey players before him. With each quality addition like Smith-Pelly, the new group of skilled Black players should also be considered pioneers, because they help generate interest in minority communities, while transforming the image of the league.

On April 24th, the Ducks brought up Smith-Pelly, the promising winger from their AHL developmental affiliate, Norfolk Admirals. He joins the big club in Anaheim as they pursue their second Stanley Cup. The Anaheim Ducks have drawn the Detroit Red Wings in the first round.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: joint movement 36299 Revlon Lane, Murrieta, CA 92562 Riverside County
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (See Section 14411, Et Seq., Business and Professions Code).
Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2011-00802 p. 4/18, 425, 5/2, 5/9, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: hotel 32124 Via Playa Del Rey Murrieta, CA 92563 Riverside County
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
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Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2011-00802 p. 4/18, 425, 5/2, 5/9, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: sexual masseuse 22610 Laguna Dr. Murrieta, CA 92562 Riverside County
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
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Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2011-03334 p. 4/18, 425, 5/2, 5/9, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: QUALITY SOLUTIONS 22610 Laguna Dr. Murrieta, CA 92562 Riverside County
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Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2011-03334 p. 4/18, 425, 5/2, 5/9, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HANDYMAN SERVICEx 69210 Mantrapal Dr. Cathedral City, CA 92234 Riverside County
John Michael Garcia 1250 Penelope Ave. Thermal, CA 92274 Riverside County
This business is conducted by: Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I hereby certify that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: privacy management 1226 Landon Dr Murrieta, CA 92561 Riverside County
Charles Joseph Smith, Jr. 22610 Laguna Dr. Murrieta, CA 92562 Riverside County
Manuel William Whiteaker 1218 Landon Dr Murrieta, CA 92561 Riverside County
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COMMERCIAL STORAGE SERVICES 22610 Laguna Dr. Murrieta, CA 92562 Riverside County
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Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2011-03334 p. 4/18, 425, 5/2, 5/9, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Starburgers 27257 Appleton Ave. Riverside, CA 92503 Riverside County
Ok Suki Lee 8644 Mill Pond Pk. Riverside, CA 92504 Riverside County
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NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14411, El. Seq., Business and Professions Code).

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. R-2013-04046

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

RIVERSIDE KIDS WRESTLING
2120 Magnolia Ave, #8
Riverside, CA 92503

This business is conducted by: Individual

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above.

I hereby certify that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

Robert Sanchez

FILE NO. R-2013-04070

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

EMPLOYER INTERVIEW, VIDEO INTERVIEW SERVICES
3789 Sawtelle Circle
Corona, CA 92881

This business is conducted by: Individual

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above.

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14411, El. Seq., Business and Professions Code).

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. R-2013-04117

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

PARTY PIZZA
3795 Iowa Ave, Suite H
Riverside, CA 92507

This business is conducted by: Individual

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above.

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires two years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14411, El. Seq., Business and Professions Code).

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. R-2013-04672

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

DIAMOND COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORPORATION
8701 Bradshaw Blvd, Suite 101
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

This business is conducted by: Corporation

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above.

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires two years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14411, El. Seq., Business and Professions Code).

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. I-2013-00927

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORPORATION
9181 California Pig Trail, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92503

This business is conducted by: Corporation

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above.

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires two years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14411, El. Seq., Business and Professions Code).

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. I-2013-04651

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PARTNERSHIP OPERATING UNDER FALSE BUSINESS NAME
The following person has withdrawn as a general partner from the partnership operating under the fictitious business name of PRINCESS GARAGE DOOR COMPANY 27788 Buenos Aires Rd., Murrieta, CA 92563

Kindred Tunez

FILE NO. R-2013-00944

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

PRINCESS GARAGE DOOR COMPANY
27788 Buenos Aires Rd., Murrieta, CA 92563

This business is conducted by: General Partnership

The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in Riverside County on 4/20/10. A statement of withdrawal in this state is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk

FILE NO. R-2010-00445

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR NAME CHANGE

If the name shown above is not the true or correct name of the individual or entity doing business in this state, the person doing business in this state shall file an ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR NAME CHANGE with the Clerk of the County, within 30 days from the date the order is served.
Cathedral of Praise
International Ministries

1521 South Riverside Ave., Rialto, CA 92376
Tel: (909) 874-6876  Fax: (909) 874-1062
Email: info@opim.org or ministries@opim.org

COME JOIN US:
Every Sunday
8:00am - Celestial Praise
11:00am - Pecordial Praise
Every Wednesday
12:00pm - Noonday Bible Study
7:00pm - Bishop's Bible Study

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ustream.tv/imanivelogin-live
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Amos Temple
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
JOIN PASTOR
Marrix D. Seymore
Sunday Services
8:00 am | 11:00 am
Sunday School
9:30 am
17925 Iris Ave • Riverside, CA • 92508
951.780.8720
amostemplepastor@gmail.com

Praise Tabernacle
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
JOIN PASTOR
Ann Hillard
Sunday Services
9:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study
5:00 pm
2883 Mission Inn Ave • Riverside, CA • 92507
951.205.3159
www.praisetabernaclecmechurch.com

JOIN BISHOP
J. Faraja Kafela
Sunday Services
8:00 am | 10:30 am
Youth Church
10:30 am
510 West Monterey Ave • Pomona, CA • 91768
909.620.9161
www.imanitcf.org

Allen Chapel
AME Church
JOIN PASTOR
Noella Austín Buchanan
Sunday Services
10:15 am
25400 Alejandro Blvd • Moreno Valley, CA • 92553
951.485.6993
www.quinnname.com

Quinn A.M.E. Church
JOIN PASTOR
Theodore W. Payne IV
Sunday Services Tuesday Bible Study
11:00 am | 1:00 pm
Monday/Wednesday Bible Study
6:30 pm
6151 Arlington Ave, Riverside, CA 92504
951.687.6902 | church.harvest.org

Join Pastor
Greg Laurie
Sunday Services
7:30 | 9:30 | 11:30 a.m.
Sunday Nights at Harvest
With Pastor Josh Thompson | 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Night Bible Study
With Pastor Jeff Lassiegbna | 7:00 P.M.

For advertising opportunities, contact
Lee Ragin at 951.682.6070

Here We Grow...
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Cross Word
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:30 a.m.

New Beginnings
Christian Fellowship
JOIN PASTOR
James B. Ellis, Jr.
Sunday Services
11:00 am
Tuesday Bible Study
7:30 pm
5970 Limonite Ave • Riverside, CA • 92509
951.682.4407
www.nbch.org
Charlene Johnson, owner of Gracious Gatherings event planning and catering service near March Air Force Base, is a proud Navy mom. Her son, Jeremy is in Information Technology with some of the Navy’s most elite fighting forces. She is an important part of a military family – her husband is a Navy veteran; her daughter in-law is a Marine veteran; her brother is an Air Force veteran; her brother in-law is an Army veteran; and her nephew is an active duty Army officer.

Moms wear lots of hats and pockets. I’ve been working many, many years...all filled with good memories and “defining moments”. I’ve been a teacher, hospital administrator, tutor for international students, corporate trainer, and at this season in my life I have lived a dream of being a business owner. I opened an event planning & catering service 11 years ago at March Air Reserve Base. Since the redevelopment of the base closed that facility, the business is ‘mobile’ now, but just as enjoyable.

We are pretty much a military family - representing Navy, Army and Air Force and serving from the Korean War, Viet Nam, and now the Middle East ‘conflicts’.

My son Jeremy developed an interest in military service while in junior high and volunteering at the Loma Linda Veterans Medical Center. The Chaplain there introduced him to the Navy Sea Cadets Corps.

With our encouragement, after high school, he decided to enlist in the Navy in 1997.

Today he has seen most of the world, and gained computer training in his chosen field, that we could not afford to give him. This has taken him to exciting (as well as dangerous) assignments with the Navy’s elite fighting forces in Afghanistan and Iraq. He’s now Petty Officer 1st class specializing in Information systems.

The night before he left for basic training, we spent time looking at our family album and praying for his safety and success. Then it wasn’t so hard to let him go. He’s in God’s hands. I did worry a bit when he called home from Iraq to tell us he had been in a building that had been blown up. He seemed so calm about it that I never worried again. (Actually, I was more worried about him when he was dating in high school...oh well we survived that too!)

We’re proud of his service and believe that the United States is the GREATEST SHOW on EARTH! There are so many opportunities here that don’t exist in many places in the world. We are a blessed nation.

So parents, encourage military service to your sons and daughters. They’re going to get fed, housed and clothed, learn good ‘life skills’ and a career, positive self-development, PLUS an allowance. And you won’t have to worry where they are at night because the military WILL find them.

Charlene can be reached at: graciousgatherin@aol.com.
If there’s one thing we’ve learned in nearly 150 years, it’s this: When you do what’s right for customers, long-lasting relationships will follow.

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