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Special Series: Leaders in Education

Ted Alejandre
Deputy Superintendent SB County Schools
Leading with Accountability
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Contact the VOICE: 951.682.6070 or email suzie@bpcmediaworks.com
A century ago Booker T. Washington made a trip to Riverside on a fundraising and speaking tour promoting the success he had achieved at Tuskegee Institute, the college he led in rural Alabama. Born into slavery, Washington was part of a small group of southern Blacks who received his education shortly after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. Washington started his career as the first teacher of the school in 1881 and served as its leader until his death in 1915. A master of promotion and fundraising, Washington’s visit to Riverside was part of a savvy strategy of raising funds and gaining support for his institution.

A special guest of the progressive Mission Inn owner Frank Miller, Washington gave his first speech at Miller’s church First Congregational. His speech, highlighting the school as a place of practical education and a center for innovative agricultural research, struck a cord with the advocates for social justice that comprised the congregation. After his remarks the congregation made a significant contribution to Tuskegee. Under Washington’s leadership, the school became and remains a strong foundation for generations of eager young minds.

Inspired by Washington’s visionary leadership, the Voice is co-hosting a reception with the Mission Inn Museum on Saturday and launching a special series beginning in this issue highlighting some of Inland Southern California’s educational leaders. Unfortunately, our trend in this region is one of low educational attainment, with only 28% of our population holding college degrees. In the past few years we have seen improving graduation rates and efforts have been made to beat back the high drop-out rate, but according to *Halve the Gap by 2030: Youth Disconnection in America’s Cities*, a report released late last year by the Social Science Research Council, listed among its key findings: Riverside-San Bernardino is home to the greatest share of disconnected young people in the country at 18.8% (more than Charlotte, NC at 17.3% and Detroit at 17.4%). Disconnected is defined as youth ages 16-24 who are neither in school nor working.

It is clear, the researchers explain, that the value of being in school and being connected to learning is tangible for the entire community not just the individual student. They are convinced that through the collective efforts of educational institutions, social service delivery organizations, the justice system, and private and nonprofit sectors, the objective is within reach. “By coaliscing around a shared goal, we can galvanize, mobilize, and put in place a system of accountability” to help all young people excel and achieve success. We hope this series adds to the conversation here in the Inland Empire.

To subscribe to my weekly blog Rants & Raves visit mygoldenstate.tumblr.com or follow me on twitter @mygoldenstate.

Don’t Forget to join us for the 100th Anniversary of Booker T Washington’s Visit to Riverside exhibit at The Mission Inn Museum with special guest Kenneth B Morris Jr on Saturday April 5th at 2 pm.
Fake Attorney Arrested, Investigators Searching for More Victims

San Bernardino

Picture it. You’ve worked hard to earn a living and save money but unforeseen circumstances have caused you to hire an attorney to either file for bankruptcy or a family matter case. You find an attorney, he takes the case, you hand him your money to later find out – the attorney – a fraud.

That’s exactly what happened recently for some San Bernardino county residents. The Consumer Protection Unit of the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office recently filed 12 counts of grand theft and 9 counts of the unauthorized practice of law against 76-year-old Joseph Robert Lopez, Sr., of Walnut Park.

The charges are pending in the Rancho Cucamonga Superior Court. Lopez, who was arrested on Feb. 27, 2014 is currently in custody with bail set at $360,000.

The charges stem from an investigation conducted by district attorney investigators showing that Lopez presented himself as an attorney who could help individuals with bankruptcies, family law matters, immigration matters and civil and criminal representation.

According to investigators, Lopez took money for these services which he could not deliver. Lopez is not, and never has been a licensed attorney.

Further investigation revealed that Lopez specifically targeted Spanish-speaking individuals as his victims. Investigators believe that his fraudulent activities have occurred in San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties.

A bail hearing has been set in Rancho Cucamonga Superior Court.

Individuals who believe they have been victimized by Joseph Robert Lopez, Sr. should contact the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Consumer Protection unit at (909) 891-3330 or via the District Attorney website at http://www.sbcountyda.org.

Seniors Invited to the Flower Power 55 and Better Luncheon

The City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is inviting seniors 55 years of age and better to the Flower Power Senior Luncheon on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Dales Senior Center, located at 3936 Chestnut Street.

The Flower Power Luncheon will provide seniors with an opportunity for a healthy meal, live entertainment and a chance to socialize with friends while enjoying an afternoon outing.

Participants are encouraged to register by April 7 at any City of Riverside community center for a fee of $3.00 per person. Registration will be taken at the door until the event is sold out. A vegetarian plate alternative will be provided for participants upon request by April 7. Space is limited, so please register early!

For additional information about programs and services offered at the Dales Senior Center, please contact staff at 951-826-5303, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Public Utilities Offers Rebates to Replace Thirsty Lawns

As the drought continues to affect the west, water purveyors like Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) are promoting their water conservation and efficiency programs that offer customers rebates and incentives for being water wise.

Two of the many programs available for RPU’s water customers are the Artificial Turf and Waterwise Landscape rebate programs, designed to replace thirsty lawn areas with no water use turf or low water use plants.

“Landscape watering is the single largest source of outdoor water use by residential properties, and lawn areas not only use the most water, they can also be the source of overwatering and water waste,” said RPU General Manager Girish Balachandran. “These programs offer our customers unique ways to still have a beautiful looking yard, but one that is much more water efficient.”

By replacing existing grass areas with artificial turf, RPU residential water customers can receive an incentive of $1 per square foot, up to $1,000. Typical installations can conserve approximately 22,000 gallons of water each year. Plus with artificial turf, there is no fertilizer or green waste.

The utility’s residential water customers can also receive incentives for taking part in RPU’s Waterwise Landscape rebate program, which offers 40 cents per square foot of turf area that is replaced with waterwise landscaping. Customers can replace between 1,000 to 6,000 square feet of existing turf for a maximum rebate of $2,400 (however, the rebate cannot exceed 50% of the project’s total documented materials cost).

RPU also offers rebates for placing waterwise landscaping in public parkway areas that are smaller than 1,000 square feet.

Simply by planting drought tolerant and California native or friendly plants and using efficient irrigation, outdoor water use can be cut by 50%, saving up to 1,800 gallons of water per month. Many native and drought tolerant plants don’t need additional watering besides what they get from seasonal rainfall.

Each program requires customers to contact Riverside Public Utilities at 951-826-5485 prior to beginning any work for approvals and site inspection. Some program restrictions apply.

For complete details on these and other water and energy conservation programs offered by RPU visit www.GreenRiverside.com. For additional information about Riverside Public Utilities follow us on Facebook and on Twitter @RPUNews.

Riverside Students Learn Computer Code To Launch Rocket

On Sunday, March 16th selected Riverside high school students were given the unique chance to experience the power of technology by learning to write computer code to launch a model rocket in downtown Riverside for the first ever Carrington Case Code Day (C3): This Is Rocket Science.

“I truly believe that computer science has untold potential, especially when it comes to empowering youth,” explains Kevin Carrington, CEO of Carrington Case, a luxury tech accessory company based at Riverside.io and sponsor of the event with SendGrid. “We believe that we can assist in increasing the number of young people interested in fields of Science and Technology by exposing them to the many exciting possibilities that this will afford them.”

Carrington Case has plans of expanding the event in the future for students and is looking forward to launching a spring collection in April.

“We’ve had an overwhelming amount of positive feedback on the event,” says Carrington. “With so much support from the students and parents we are excited to start planning the next C3 and expand the number of students we reach.”

theievoice.com | APRIL 3, 2014 | VOICE 5
Race Matters
Renowned Diversity Expert To Speak At Symposium On Race At CSUSB

San Bernardino

Cal State San Bernardino will co-host an inaugural symposium on race and race relations on Wednesday, April 16, at the university’s Santos Manuel Student Union Events Center.

“Painting a Social Rainbow for a Better Inland Empire” will be held from noon-4 p.m. Registration and check-in for the symposium begins at 11 a.m. The event is free and open to the public and includes complimentary parking in Lot D. To register, visit the event website at http://udcsymposium.eventbrite.com.

The event, which is co-hosted by the Westside Action Group of San Bernardino and CSUSB’s University Diversity Committee, will feature Samuel Betances, a nationally renowned scholar, writer, speaker and activist on issues of diversity. He will deliver the keynote address at 12:15 p.m.

Betances, a consultant and professor emeritus of sociology at Northeastern Illinois University, will speak on the topics of workplace diversity, ethnic and race relations and educational reform.

“The purpose of this symposium is to bring together members of the CSUSB campus and its surrounding communities to provide an opportunity for positive dialogue regarding issues related to race and race relations,” said César Caballero, dean of CSUSB’s Pfau Library and co-chair of the symposium planning committee.

Westside Action Group is a proactive organization for African Americans in San Bernardino County in general, but is primarily focused on the city of San Bernardino. The group hosts a weekly community forum serving as a resource, an advocate for education, economic and community development; and as consultants to candidates seeking public office.

“WAG is excited about the symposium,” said Alton Garrett, the group’s president. “The scheduled speakers and participants bode well for an outstanding, informative symposium.

“It will provide valuable insight into racism and perceived racism,” he said. “Institutional racism is a reality and hopefully, individuals who are not aware of their practices will gain much needed knowledge and understanding of their beliefs.” Caballero agreed. “The intent is to create awareness of historical and current race relations, so that participants can work together to develop greater levels of understanding and take positive actions that would result in improved race relations on campus and the Inland Empire.”

Betances’ success at bringing cultures together has earned him many awards. His goal is to help others learn the importance of pulling cultures together as a way of bringing America back to the top – in education, business and society in general. As he puts it, “Our mission is to make America stronger, healthier and freer than when we found her.”

Each time Betances addresses an audience, he stresses the need to accept and embrace diversity and, as he puts it, “to harness the rainbow,” saying, “It matters less where we are from – what really matters is where we are going.”

The Harvard alum has consulted all over the world for more than 20 years with private and public sector clients to help strengthen the workplace by making a business case for diversity without bashing any particular group at the expense of another.

Following the keynote address, there will be four breakout sessions simultaneously scheduled from 1:15-2:15 p.m. Participants may select from: “Education: Dropouts and Discipline,” facilitated by Ray Culberson, director of Youth Services for the San Bernardino City Unified School District; “Perceptions and Culture: Health and Unemployment,” presenter to be announced; “Law Enforcement and Crime” led by Ron Cochran, assistant sheriff of the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department; and “Residential Segregation: Housing and Education,” presented by Louie Rodriguez, associate professor of CSUSB’s Educational Leadership and Curriculum Department and co-director of the doctorate in educational leadership program.

For more information about the Symposium on Race and Race Relations, contact César Caballero at (909) 537-3443 or email ccaballe@csusb.edu.

2014 Housing Conference in the City of Riverside
The New Business of Housing

Riverside

The Fair Housing Council of Riverside County, Inc. (FHCRC) will host the Housing Conference 2014 on Thursday, April 24, 2014, in honor of National Fair Housing Month. This conference will be held at the Riverside Convention Center in the diverse city of Riverside, California.

Riverside County was one of the areas most severely affected by the recent economic crisis. As such, FHCRC has seen the number of housing discrimination cases rise at a rapid pace, which highlights the need for immediate action.

In response to these issues, FHCRC will host the 2014 Housing Conference, which will bring together decision-makers from the industry in order to address issues plaguing the housing market in Riverside County and California as a whole.

The 2014 Housing Conference will be an all-day conference with guest speakers, breakout sessions, and panel discussions. This conference will have 150 industry leaders in attendance, with the potential to impact thousands of individuals who are involved in the housing market.

For more information, please contact Johnnie Jones at (951) 682-6581 or visit: www.fairhousing.net
Dear Y.A.: Spring is in the air and with that comes pollen. There are some allergy medications that do not cause drowsiness, but if you prefer natural remedies you need look no further than the kitchen cabinet.

You might want to try cooking up some allergy relief in the form of hot, spicy foods. The reason: Experts say the spicier the dish, the more likely it is to thin mucous secretions, which in turn can clear nasal passages. Hot and spicy foods can actually help relieve some of the respiratory symptoms associated with seasonal allergies.

Among the most frequently recommended spices for this purpose include cayenne pepper, hot ginger, and fenugreek, as well as the traditional onion and garlic.

There are lots of dishes that are hot, spicy and flavorful: Kung pao chicken, curry, spicy ginger chicken, hot Italian sausage, which is great on the grill by the way, all kinds of Mexican and Thai foods. Sprinkle a little cayenne pepper on grilled vegetables. It doesn’t take much to produce the desired result. Of course, spicy foods will not prevent seasonal allergies, but they are a tasty way to get some relief.

Turning the focus from the medicine chest to the kitchen cabinet, what you don’t eat may be even more important than what you do eat. The reason is that food intolerance may be far more intimately entwined with seasonal allergies than we realize.

Look at your diet and cut out any foods that seem to provoke even a mild sensitivity, such as occasional hives or even stomach upset. In doing so, you can literally lighten the burden on your immune system, which in turn may help reduce the impact of seasonal allergic reactions.
Time for Change in the Rialto Public Schools

The citizens of Rialto deserve better than what they have been receiving from the Rialto public education system for the past two decades. The students and taxpayers have been up against racial division on the board of trustees, racial division in the community, inept selection of superintendents, divide and conquer tactics in employee group negotiations, hiring of non-credentialed teaching staff, some parental intimidation of staff, employees stealing funds, misconduct by staff members and a divided city political government which has added to the decline in student achievement and a good image for the city.

Last Sunday’s edition of The Sun Newspaper did a great job of reporting a chronological timeline of some of the problems facing Rialto’s schools. I consider it a must read for the citizens of Rialto who will have an opportunity to vote and select new leadership on the Board of Education.

After reading it, and with your own personal knowledge of what has been going on in the city, you will say, “IT IS TIME FOR A CHANGE.” It must be in a direction that is more INCLUSIVE of ALL citizens and students. It must be in the environment where we are our brother’s keepers and all decisions are to the betterment of all students not just a special group. If a group needs special help then show compassion by helping them reach their full potential as well. How can a board member say they were successful if a group of students remain at the bottom and receive no help under their service on the board?

Voters should get involved before election day and talk with all candidates long before then. Some parents are already engaging themselves in the political process by trying to recall two members of the board. Now while I do not have the full story on why they are calling for this recall, under the current climate I can understand their frustration.

When you have a revolving door for superintendents, people stealing money, allegations of inappropriate teacher-student relations, board member misconduct and teachers teaching without credentials, it is enough to want to recall any one serving.

Two school board members were recalled in Fontana and members of San Bernardino City Council were recalled recently including the city attorney.

In my opinion the citizens are getting fed up with ineffective leaders who have their own personal agenda instead of serving the will of the people.

I say get involved and ask all candidates what they have done for education. It is not just enough to have them tell you they have a child in the system. While that is good it’s only indicative of every parent living in Rialto but the question remains, what have they done on behalf of others?

Their answer will be a good indicator of what they will do on behalf of all 26,000+ students in Rialto.

Their knowledge of some important educational issues will be another indicator as well as working with others through other organizations.

It will be up to the voters to make their voices heard through the ballot box and vote for a change.

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.
Eco-friendly Weed Control in Lawns

By Melinda Myers

Don't let lawn weeds get the best of you. These opportunistic plants find a weak spot in the lawn, infiltrate and begin to take over your grass. Take back the lawn with proper care. Your lawn will not only be greener and healthier, but good for the environment.

The grass and thatch layer act as a natural filter, helping to keep pollutants out of our groundwater and dust out of our atmosphere. They also reduce erosion, decrease noise and help keep our homes and landscapes cooler in summer. And a healthy lawn is the best defense against weeds.

Start by identifying the unwanted lawn invaders. Use them as a guide to improve your lawn's health and beauty. Weeds appear and spread when the growing conditions are better for them than the grass. Correct the problem to reduce the weeds and improve the health of your lawn. Killing the weeds without fixing the underlying cause is only a temporary solution. Unless the cause is eliminated the weed problem will return.

Here are a few of the more common weeds, the cause and possible solutions for managing them out of the lawn.

High populations and a variety of weeds mean you need to adjust your overall lawn care practices. Mow high and often, removing no more than 1/3 the total height of the grass at one time. Leave the clippings on the lawn in order to return water, nutrients and organic matter to the soil. This along with proper fertilization using an organic nitrogen slow release fertilizer with non leaching phosphorous, like Milorganite (milorganite.com), can greatly reduce weeds.

Knotweed and plantains often found growing next to walks and drives or other high traffic areas can also be found in lawns growing on heavy poorly prepared soils. These weeds thrive in compacted soil where lawn grasses fail. Reduce soil compaction and improve your lawn's health with core aeration. Aerate lawns when actively growing in spring or fall. Or replace grass in high traffic areas with permeable pavers or stepping stones to eliminate the cause.

Nut sedge is a common weed in wet or poorly drained soils. Improve the drainage to manage this weed. It may mean core aerating the lawn and topdressing with compost, regrading or the installation of a rain garden to capture, filter and drain excess water back into the ground.

Clover and black medic mean it's time to get the soil tested and adjust fertilization. Both thrive when the lawn is starving. Clover was once included in lawn mixes because of its ability to capture nitrogen from the atmosphere and add it to the soil. If these weeds are present, boost the lawn's diet starting this spring with a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer. It feeds slowly throughout the season, promoting slow steady growth that is more drought tolerant, disease resistant and better able to outcompete the weeds.

Creeping Charley, also known as ground ivy, violets, and plantains usually get their foothold in shady spots. Take back those shady spots by growing a more shade tolerant grass like the cool season grass fescue or warm season St. Augustine grass. Mow high and fertilize less, only 1 to 2 pounds of nitrogen per growing season, than the sunny areas of your lawn. Or replace the lawn with shade tolerant groundcovers. Adjust your overall care to reclaim and maintain the rest of the lawn.

Crabgrass and Goosegrass are common weeds that follow a hot dry summer. Mow high to shade the soil and prevent many of these annual grass weeds from sprouting. Corn gluten meal is reduce these and other weeds from sprouting. Apply in spring and fall applications to reduce weeds by as much as 80% in three years.

And, when mowing this year, consider an electric or push mower to manage your lawn in an even more eco-friendly manner.
RANCHO CUCAMONGA
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
Tuesday - Sunday, April 1 - 6
Jesus Christ Superstar, Broadway at the Gardens presents Jesus Christ Superstar, the ground-breaking theatrical masterpiece by the legendary writing team of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber with show times at 7:30 pm on Fridays & Saturday and 2:00 pm on Sundays at the Lewis Family Playhouse, 12505 Cultural Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739. Tickets are priced at $28.50 for General, $26.50 for Seniors & Youth and are available online at www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com or through the Box Office at (909) 477-2752.

CORONA
GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING SERIES
Thursday, April 3-17 (Every Thursday), 8:30-11:30am
The RCCD Procurement Assistance Center is offering Government Contracting classes for businesses interested in selling to the federal government. To complete the series it is necessary to attend all three classes consecutive upon which you will receive a certificate of completion. The topics for these classes include, but are not limited to: government certifications and programs, marketing, regulations, solicitations, and the federal procurement process. As well as activities, study cases and special projects are incorporated into the classes For registration and additional information go to our website. Location: Procurement Assistance Center, 152 E. 6th Street, Corona, CA. Cost: $30.00. Tel: (951) 571-6459.

MORENO VALLEY
JULIAN ALEXANDER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Saturday, April 5
Fundraiser in honor of Julian Alexander, 1988-2008. Julian was killed by an Anaheim police officer. In his memory, the Julian Alexander Memorial Committee holds an annual golf tournament to raise money for scholarships awarded to high school students in the Inland Empire. All proceeds to benefit the Julian Alexander Memorial Fund. All donations are tax deductible. There will be trophies, raffle prizes, putting, longest yard, and closest to the pins contests. Location: Moreno Valley Ranch Golf, 28095 Kenney Drive, Moreno Valley, CA. Cost: $100.00 for golfers, $30.00 for non-golfers. Tel: Sheryl Bell at (951) 214-1310 or email sbell50@hotmail.com.

SAN BERNARDINO
COLOR ME BADD
Saturday, April 5, 7pm
This vocal quartet formed as high school students in Oklahoma City before relocating to New York. They proved adept at both churning dance tunes and sincere ballads. Signing to Giant Records, they broke through in 1991 with their performance of “I Wanna Sex You Up” on the soundtrack of New Jack City. Color Me Badd’s next single was another movie soundtrack song, “Forever Love” from Mo’ Money, their sixth consecutive single to reach the Top 20. Location: National Orange Show Events Center, 689 South East Street, San Bernardino, CA.
Running the business of San Bernardino County Schools, the largest county in the United States, is a tough job. With a daily attendance of 412,000 and annual budget of $230,000 million, under the leadership of Superintendent Gary Thomas, Deputy Superintendent Ted Alejandre has managed the organization with a focus on accountability, transparency, and fiscal responsibility. (Above: Ted Alejandre with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and former State Superintendent Jack O’Connell; Alejandre with students; SB County Superintendent of Schools Gary Thomas and Moreno Valley School Board Member Jesus Holguin)  continued on page 12
And as Deputy Superintendent, overseeing the Business Services Division, Alejandre is responsible for the development and management of a $230 million annual budget and internal business functions, facilities planning, purchasing and contracts management and business advisory services for local school and community college districts.

Born and raised in San Bernardino, Alejandre knows the importance of education, family, and giving back to his community. His family lived right behind San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC), and he recalls the college was a second “paradise for him.”

“SBVC was a place for me to explore and experience nearly every day,” states Alejandre. “Being able to swim in their beautiful pool, play basketball in their gym, play handball in their courts, watch football and baseball games, it was a wonderful experience.”

But it was not all fun and games for Alejandre. A good education reinforced with strong family values was the core in shaping the boy into the man today. In his household, his parents, and by his own admission, “especially by my mother who had very high expectations that we succeed in school,” is what he attributes to his passion for the field of education.

After receiving his education, Alejandre enlisted in the Armed Services and served four years active duty at Norton Air Force Base. Once he completed his active duty tour, he started working for the Rialto Unified School District for the Fiscal Services Department. He continued to work on his bachelors degree and after completion he began his educational career at San Bernardino City Unified.

Going from protecting and serving the country to protecting and serving youth wasn’t that big of a jump for Alejandre who stated that he actually decided to have both careers. “When I completed my active duty service at Norton AFB, I decided to stay in the Air Force reserves which I currently still am in. I have over 29 years of military service, currently serving as a Lieutenant Colonel at March ARB. My decision to go into education was the incredible support and encouragement
given to me by my mother-in-law Delfina Bryant. In addition, while working in Rialto Unified, many co-workers encouraged me to go into teaching and I decided to do it – one of the best decisions I ever made.”

He worked as an elementary teacher, elementary vice principal, elementary principal, middle school principal and director of fiscal services before being accepted as an Assistant Superintendent of Business Services for the Yucaipa-Calimesa School District which he served four years.

Alejandre later went on to work for Dr. Gary Thomas as the Deputy Superintendent of Schools. In this capacity, Alejandre states his role is to provide the oversight responsibilities for the county. “As Deputy Superintendent, I am responsible for all the oversight responsibilities of the County Superintendent which includes fiscal and instructional oversight, approval of all district budgets and Local Control Accountability Plans, facility inspections under the Williams legislation and any other matters designated by the County Superintendent. In addition, I oversee all of the departments within the Business Services Division.”

But what is a day in the life for a Deputy Superintendent? “Extremely busy!” states Alejandre. “I constantly interact with districts on a variety of issues relating to fiscal and instructional oversight responsibilities of our office. In addition, I am responsible for all decisions related to Business Services which include fiscal services, information technology, purchasing/contracts, facilities, governance/legislation and risk management. With over 1,900 employees and a budget of over $200 million, there are many issues that arise on a daily basis for which I am responsible.”

### Inland Empire Dropout Rate

According to the California Department of Education, young men of color are rated one of the highest in dropouts. The dropout rate is 25.6% for Black boys, 19.2% for Latino boys, 21.0% for Native Americans and 10.1% for Whites. With the statistics so high for the county, Alejandre was asked what he would suggest to parents, teachers, and educators to curb these numbers.

“This is a major problem that we need to place as one of our highest priorities. This is a complex problem that requires a community-based solution. At the forefront is the need for schools to have early intervention programs that identify students at risk of dropping out. When I was in a Yucaipa-Calimesa, we had a program that did just that at 9th grade. When a student was identified as at risk of dropping out, we had a program called “Brace” that brought together a team of individuals from the school to determine how we could immediately implement interventions to ensure the student was able to regroup and get back on track. As a result, we would have approximately 720 students enter 9th grade and 720 students leave 9th grade! This was a result of teachers, staff, administrators and parents working together for the best interest of the student.”

“We also have to find a way of enabling students to build meaningful relationships. When students do this, they are much more likely to succeed. When they don’t, they lose hope. We have to build career options for students to give them hope and enable them to build positive relationships to keep them on track for success. These career options are dependent on also building a vibrant economy that needs young entrepreneurs and skilled workers. When students believe there are meaningful opportunities after high school, they are much more likely to be motivated to complete their program and be excited about post-high school opportunities.”

Alejandre remains optimistic about the San Bernardino School system and states that in five years, it is his desire to aid in implementing programs with more accountability and flexibility. He states of his vision that the San Bernardino school would be, “definitely in a much stronger position of providing students with programs that focus on the individual and unique priorities of the district and community. With the implementation of a new funding model and accountability system that gives districts local control and flexibility, we have huge opportunities to design, build and implement instructional programs that focus on the priorities of each district and their community. With increased participation and commitment of all stakeholders, I see districts fully implementing effective instructional programs that demonstrate huge success for all students.”

With the upcoming retirement of County Superintendent Gary Thomas in December 2014, Alejandre announced his candidacy for the role. “I am passionate and committed to working collectively with our school district leaders, staff, community partners and parents to provide all students with equal access to a high-quality education and enriching learning experiences,” said Alejandre in his announcement this past January.

“Building community trust in public education and sharing a common vision for our children is essential to ensuring all of our students have opportunities that prepare them for success.”

He also stated that his goal is to ensure the Superintendent of Schools is a service-based organization that emphasizes a collaborative rapport with districts to help ensure their success with implementing their instructional programs. With this new oversight, our major goal is to help them become successful with serving the over 400,000 students in our county. The major difference moving forward is that the school district is in a much more important role, with the implementation of Local Control Accountability Plans, to work even closer with districts as they implement their instructional programs.
Local Youth Recognized by National Football Foundation

By S. Brown

The National Football Foundation (NFF) and College Hall of fame recently recognized and honored 22 rising scholar-athletes in the Riverside County area.

Among those recognized was Weston Brown, a senior at Murrieta Valley High School and the son of Reginald and Tamara Brown. With over one thousand candidates to consider, Weston was nominated by his coach and voted on by a board to receive this national recognition. Along with receiving an award his name has been inscribed in the College Football Hall of Fame that is located in South Bend, Indiana. Very humbly he stated, “I was not expecting to be nominated or selected. It was a complete surprise to me.”

After graduating high school, Weston plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in sports management and then go on to law school to become a sports agent. He has been accepted at several colleges for the fall and has signed an offer to attend McKendree University in Illinois on a football and track scholarship.

Weston carries a 3.4 GPA, played defensive back and wide receiver on the varsity football team, and participates in four events on the varsity track team, as well as serving as ASB Commissioner of Pep.

“I am among a group of true gentlemen of integrity who are destined for success and it’s an honor to be chosen as one of them.” No doubt Weston Brown will also be counted as one of the successful.

The NFF was founded in 1947, and the Riverside County chapter was founded in 2003. This chapter represents the 54 high school programs in the county. Their mission is to promote the power of amateur football in developing the qualities of leadership, sportsmanship, and the drive of academic excellence in America’s youth.

Assemblymember Cheryl R. Brown Honors Women of Distinction

In recognition of Women’s History Month, Assemblymember Cheryl R. Brown (D-San Bernardino) recently honored groundbreaking women from the 47th Assembly District at her annual Women of Distinction event held at the Sierra Lakes Country Club in Fontana. The 2014 honorees were (L to R): City Clerk Eileen Gomez, City of Colton; Jasmine Hall, a member of the board of directors at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (pictured is her daughter accepting the award on her behalf); Sally McGuire, a business owner and president of the Grand Terrace Chamber of Commerce; Marge Mendoza-Ware, a longtime school board member of the Colton Joint Unified School District (CJUSD); the Honorable Grace Vargas, City of Rialto; and Vicki Lee, a homeless student liaison at the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD).
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This is a legal document regarding the registration of a fictitious business name. It includes details about the business's name, the individual or entity conducting the business, and the legal declaration of the registration. The document also contains information about the county, the state, and the filing date of the document. The text is formal and follows the typical structure of legal notices, including dates, names, and addresses. The document is a representation of how a fictitious business name is registered and publicized to ensure that no conflicts arise with existing businesses in the same area.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

LIVING TREE REALTY GROUP
6976 Indiava Ave, JC Riverside County
49155 Riverside
2685 Old Town Front St, Suite 202
Temecula, CA 92590

This is a nullity.

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

SCPLOOSTROY
SUPER-CLEAN PLAYBOY
23549 Suncrest Ave
Moreno Valley CA 92553

This is a nullity.

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

CJ’S COMPANY
898 Lily Way
Riverside, CA 92508

This is a nullity.

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

RIVERMEADE MONTES
23549 Suncrest Ave
Moreno Valley CA 92553

This is a nullity.

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

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE

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

LIVING TREE REALTY GROUP
6976 Indiava Ave, JC Riverside County
49155 Riverside
2685 Old Town Front St, Suite 202
Temecula, CA 92590

This is a nullity.

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

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898 Lily Way
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RIVERMEADE MONTES
23549 Suncrest Ave
Moreno Valley CA 92553

This is a nullity.

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

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE
To above was filed in Riverside County on 11/28/12
I declare 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).

WENDY SIMMONS
Loma Linda, CA 92354
(909) 676-2302
S/ Daniel Brown
I declare 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).

WENDY SIMMONS
Loma Linda, CA 92354
(909) 676-2302
S/ Daniel Brown
I declare 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).

WENDY SIMMONS
I declare 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).

WENDY SIMMONS
Loma Linda, CA 92354
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S/ Daniel Brown
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WENDY SIMMONS
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WENDY SIMMONS
Loma Linda, CA 92354
(909) 676-2302
S/ Daniel Brown
I declare 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).
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**SanDeep Hampal**
12605 Vineyard Rock Lane
 Moreno Valley, CA 92555

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.

Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
Clerk L. SIBLEY
FILE NO. R-2014-01085

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

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-01089
p. 3/4, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

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

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02029
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CALIFORNIA EXPRESS CENTRAL REALTY

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02032
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VAL STOKES ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-03112
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 10005 Arow Leaf

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02096
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

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

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02080
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

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

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02092
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ESTATE OF EDWARDS HA CONNCTION

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-01115

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02094
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02097
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

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p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02100
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02101
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02102
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02103
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02104
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02105
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02106
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**Larry W. Ward, County Clerk**
FILE NO. R-2014-02107
p. 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
For advertising opportunities, contact Lee Ragin at 951.682.6070
Introducing UC Riverside Professor & Mathematician Michel Lapidus

UC Riverside Professor and mathematician Michel Lapidus sometimes has trouble simplifying his work far enough so that it is understood by the average person. But that doesn’t mean his work isn’t important.

In fact, his work will be cited as a highlight of the research funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division of Mathematical and Physical Sciences when the funding agency submits its 2015 budget proposal to Congress and the Office of the President.

“It is an unusually high honor to be included in this document as NSF selects highlights based on the significance of the work,” said Professor of Chemistry Cynthia Larive, a divisional dean in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. “You so seldom see mathematicians get the public kudos that they deserve, even researchers who are well-respected in their field like Professor Lapidus,” she said.

The research project selected as a highlight by the NSF titled “Can One Hear the Shape of a Fractal Drum?” was funded by a 2011 grant for $164,999. Professor Lapidus offers an analogy to help explain the project.

“Imagine someone playing a drum, and a few yards from her, another person trying to guess the shape of the drum just by listening to its music. This is a notoriously difficult and important problem in contemporary mathematics, with many applications to physics, chemistry, biology and engineering. Now, there is a twist to the story. Indeed, the drum is allowed to have an intricate, wrinkled shape, at all scales—either in its interior or on its boundary; in short, it is a fractal drum.”

Lapidus has established unexpected connections with the celebrated Riemann hypothesis, the most important open problem in mathematics. “In essence,” Lapidus said, “the Riemann hypothesis encodes key properties of the prime numbers, which are the building blocks (or the DNA) of arithmetic, and thereby, of all of mathematics.”

Understanding fractal structures, such as trees, blood vessels, rivers and clouds, is one way scientists study how and why they arise in nature and how they evolve. Part of Lapidus’s work provides some of the clues towards resolving this long-standing open problem.

The mathematical theories underlying the work are complicated. But for those immersed in that world, Lapidus is a highly sought after mentor. He earned UC Riverside’s graduate mentoring award in 2012. He also works with postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty members in various aspects of the work.

“Ultimately, it is simply a tribute to the beauty of mathematics, and to its surprising and mysterious power on reality, even when it is formulated in a seemingly abstruse language and according to rules and concepts which are unfortunately not understandable to most people,” Lapidus said.

This is the second time that the work of Professor Lapidus has been selected as a highlight of research funded by the National Science Foundation; his work was first recognized in 1990.
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