CLARIFICATION

I have heard and read about the legal term "unlawful detainer" and its implications. However, I had not read or heard about how such a practice has affected women's rights or minority rights or other citizens in our country. I appreciate the information you have shared with me about the historical and legal context of this issue.

As a member of the Black Voice News community, I am committed to understanding and advocating for justice and equality for all individuals. I agree that the actions of Mr. Obeng-Amponsah, as described, appear to be unlawful and unjust.

I am also interested in learning more about the specific events and implications of the case involving Mr. Obeng-Amponsah. I will continue to follow this issue closely and support efforts for justice and equity.

Thank you for sharing your perspective and for providing additional information on this important issue.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
The report highlights all of the counties in California and we want to look at Riverside and San Bernardino. Riverside County has the largest average class size among the counties. They rank dead last in the ranking at 58 of 58, and a per pupil expenditure below the state average which is ranked at 52 of 58. San Bernardino ranks 56 of 58 in the average class and is slightly higher with per pupil expenditure being in 47 place out of 58.

Riverside made improvements from 1995 to 1997 in their infant mortality rate going from 7.1 deaths per one thousand births to 6 deaths per thousand births, while African American infants have a mortality rate of 11.4 per thousand births.

Even with this decrease in infant mortality rates in Riverside County it is still double that of all others in Riverside County.

In neighboring San Bernardino County the infant mortality rate for African American infants has dropped from 11.4 per thousand births to 9.6 per thousand births. However, for African American children in the county of San Bernardino it is still double that of all other counties. Of every thousand Black babies born in San Bernardino County in the past four years, this is the highest infant mortality rate in the county. This is too many unnecessary deaths for our people if we are to increase in society.

When you put all of the conditions that are necessary for education, economics, safety and health which together impact our people we must seek solutions as we cross over into the new millennium.

It will be incumbent upon grandparents, parents, sisters, brothers, church organizations and professionals from the Black Community to turn these lifestyles around. We often pour our hearts and souls into our children. How our parents raised us. How the community would raise us if we got out of line. We talk about the next generation and how about our grandchildren. How about we eat the greens and other vegetables put in front of our young Black children and love them. We should include some of that in our values but don’t stop there. You must put your history into action. It is stated in James Amponsah that ‘put your history into action. It is stated in James Amponsah that ‘put your history into action. It is stated in James Amponsah that ‘put your history into action. It is stated in James Amponsah that ‘put your history into action. It is stated in James Amponsah that ‘put your history into action.

The awful truth of a twelfth grade class size, not only from enforcement officials, but from people in the community.

The report states that "infant mortality remains a tragic reality for too many families in California. Mirroring the persistently troubling national trends, the infant mortality rate for African American children and families is higher than the national average, and the gap between the rates is growing. The American Indian population has the highest infant mortality rate in the country. Among African American children, the infant mortality rate is higher than the national average and the gap between the rates is growing."

The report concludes that "the infant mortality rate for African American children is higher than the national average, and the gap between the rates is growing. The American Indian population has the highest infant mortality rate in the country. Among African American children, the infant mortality rate is higher than the national average and the gap between the rates is growing."
In evaluating who's efforts are most directly...
February, they would put on a holiday concert for gospelov. CeCe recalls, "There was always much to do for the concert: we had to learn how to pick it all off our orchestrations, much to do for the concert: we had to learn how to pick it all off our orchestrations.

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ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH GRIEF OVER THE LOSS OF someone loved?

HOLIDAY Remembrance PROGRAM

The Black Voice News

Page A-6 Thursday, December 9, 1999

Celebrate the Season with Hallmark, Mathis and Winans

The Black Voice News

San Bernardino

Faith Temple Host Annual Candlelight Service

Joins Faith Temple on Sunday, December 12th at 5:00 p.m. for its annual candlelight service. This year's concert is entitled, "Come Before His Presence." All are invited to join as they become God's presence; thanking Him for the precious gift of this Christmas season. This year, Faith Temple will also honor Elder Charle. The Salvation Army
CHRISTMAS KETTLE

Dr. Ray & Mrs. Lorraine Love
For more information, contact (909) 381-2662.

The Black Voice News

San Bernardino

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>MSRP</th>
<th>Freeway Discount</th>
<th>Factory Rebate</th>
<th>Customers Price</th>
<th>VIN #</th>
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From Our Family to Yours, wishing you
Peace
Joy &
Happiness
This Holiday Season

The Black VOICE News
The Inland Empire News in Black and White

Hardy & Cheryl Brown
Lisa Raleigh, Jr.
Selena Jones
Leland Stein, MD
Hardy Brown, MD
Sonnette Brown
Paula Brown-Hinds
Ruby Price Turner
Alma Brown
Belva Combs
Reginald Draper
Linda Torres
Ray Jones
Gary Montgomery
Gary Johnson
Hassan Ali
Haywood Head
Jan Good
Robert Attilano
Stations Allen Weeks
James Lee
Justin Lee
Jonathan Lee
Jared Howard
Robert Ayers
Oliver M. Kerrie
Rone Hayes
Some toys are wined, some are appraised, and some are both, such as the interactive sports fan robot or the campfire with 50 pairs of speakers—but there are plenty of choices for the young ones this season.

The trend for playthings that come equipped with technologies continues.

Traditional toys are still on the market, some of them rather ubiquitous at that. Here's a look at a few things you might select this season.

The Soft Touch

They're cute little monkeys. They hang around with little shoulder- or head- or bottom-heavy children from anywhere kids hang out, too. And though they're plush, the long-armed, long-legged Wild Republic monkeys ($10 for 17-inch primates and $6 for 13-inchers) accurately match the markings and characteristics of their counterparts in the wild. Among the animals are chimpanzees, colobus, white-handed gibbons, dump red-naped lemurs, and capuchins. From K&M International.

It just keeps unfolding, foot after foot. Lots-a-Lots-a-100% Polyester ($59 for a critter with 100 legs, $49 for a critter with 50), is a plush campfire with so many smiles you probably could swing an endorsement deal involving Michael Jordan's. From Commonwealth Toy & Novelty Co., Inc.

It could be sandy, like the RebeL Santa Bear ($72), the caterpillar with 50 legs, the elephant of your own, or the leggy Leggggggs ($99 for a critter with 50 legs, $49 for one with 100). Lots-a-Lots-a-Plush (Continued)

A magical lion protects the Great Adventures Magic Castle ($39.99), and if the good medieval knight approaches, the castle's drawbridge opens and the lion's eyes light up in green. If it's an enemy knight, he can expect a warning, and the lion's eyes flash red. The castle has all sorts of crannies for figures and dioramas, and gas for evildoers. From Fisher-Price.

Amazing Ally ($40-50) has an interactive mind of her own. She thinks, tells stories and jokes, plays games, can remember your daughter's birthday, and picks out your clothes. By Playmates.

Little ones know that the kitchen is full of fascinating gadgets. They can hear corn popping and bacon frying in the SuperGlow Electric Kitchen ($69.99), and the simulated gas burners even have light-up blue "flames." Little links, which markets this toy, says it is gender-neutral.

The Princess Ciao ($79.95) is a lavender-tinted talking laptop computer specifically designed for girls and has 52 activities, including spelling, vocabulary, math, games, memory, logic, keyboarding, and tool functions. It joins a similar laptop, the Super Zack, for boys. From Oregon Scientific.

The GeoSafari Know It All ($49.95) is a laptop full of knowledge, testing and adding to a child's savvy about history, geography, sports, music, and other subjects. It comes with 65 cards and has three modes of play. From Expleta/Top.

Hello, Dolly

Lifelike babies are the newest bundle of joy from MyTwins, the company that creates dolls to match their owners. MyTwins babies can be ordered to custom ($85-95, about four weeks to deliver), based on a personal profile including eye and hair color, whereby they come from a selection of 15 pre-made dolls ($69.95, early shipment). The infant selection includes Baby Taylor, who comes in a potentiol best sleeper, or Lauree, in a velour romper set. Call 1 (800) 4-MY-TWIN; Web site is mytwinn.com.

Before there was Barbie, there was Ginny, the fashion doll. In 1950, creator Jeannet Graves issued a One-Half Century Group, with Ginny, new a collector's item, dressed to represent fashions from each of the previous five decades. Ginny ($40) returns for the millennium for the second half of the century, and you'll find her in a Minidress-style minidress of the 1960s, in jeans and cowboy boots for the 1970s, and a future-gassing space outfit for 2000, from Vogue Doll.

The lifelike vinyl babies from Lee Middleton Original Dolls continue to attract collectors and playmates alike. My Own Baby ($120), dressed in sleeper and cap, is the heart of the collection, but you can find special versions at various prices in all sorts of states and accessories. These dolls have "acted" in episodes of "ER" and "The Oprah Winfrey Show" because of their realism. They've been used by the International Red Cross in front line chaos and "are helping troubled children express their feelings. For information, call 1 (800) 242-3285; the Web site is lee middletondoll.com.

They looked like they've just popped up in a spring garden. Kinder-Garden Babies ($19.95) come snuggled in their own fruit or flower pouches. The scented dolls include Baby Strawberry, Baby Blueberry, Baby Rose, Baby Tulip, Baby Sunflower, among others. From Toy Biz.

1-888-SALE-HERSHEY; Web site is hersheys.com.
Festive Christmas Trees and Spirit to Holiday Decorating

Church Sunday on December 19th at 4:00 p.m. Reason has been singing for more than 25 years in many churches, the Los Angeles Gospel Messengers, Alexander Hamilton and the Voices of Inspiration. She has also performed with Aretha Franklin, Al Green, Patti LaBelle, Ceasar, Albertina Walker, Minnie Riperton, as well as many others. She is the founder of the Los Angeles Gospel Messengers, Alexander Hamilton and the Voices of Inspiration, Bobby Jones’ West Coast Choir, the legendary Claus Ward Singers and also spearheads her own group, “Reason to Sing.”

Reason has performed in many theater productions such as “The Gospel Truth,” “Mama I Want to Sing,” and others. She has also performed in many television commercials.

Reason was as her earliest Christmas choir, which she started more than 25 years in many churches in the Los Angeles area. She is the founder of the Los Angeles Gospel Messengers, Alexander Hamilton and the Voices of Inspiration, Bobby Jones’ West Coast Choir, the legendary Claus Ward Singers and also spearheads her own group, “Reason to Sing.”

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December 15, 5:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors will host the Seventh Annual Procurement Conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 222 N. Vineyard Avenue, Ontario. If you have ever wanted a major contract, this is your chance to learn how to get government and private contracts. Tickets are $35 per person. For more information, contact (909) 387-1826.

December 16, 3:00 p.m., Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit all City of San Bernardino libraries in December. They will appear at the preschool story times at the Headquaters at 1175 W. Foothill Blvd., Rialto or 1-877-402-6455. Information, contact Youthquake Headquarters at 1175 W. Foothill Blvd., Rialto or 1-877-402-6455.

February 10-12, 2000, Youthquake presents “The Eleventh Hour 2000” at the Hyatt Regency Alcante, 100 Plaza Alcante, Garden Grove. Special guests speakers will include Ed. Marvin Sapp, Elder C. Shawn Tyren, and Bishop Norman L. Wagner. Registration including hotel room is $75 per person for one night, $100 per person for two nights and $115 per person for three nights. A non-refundable deposit of $40.00 due by December 19. For more information, contact Youthquake Headquarters at 1175 W. Foothill Blvd., Rialto or 1-877-260-0606 ext. 700.

March 29 - April 2, 2000, The 7th Annual Cowtown Poetry and Music Festival at Historic Melody Ranch™ Motion Picture Studio. Enjoy the magic of the Old West with performances by Bob Wills’ Texas Playboys, Red Steagall, Joni Harms and more. For more information, call toll free (909) 305-0755.

December 18, 4:00 p.m., Lake Perris State Recreation Area will be hosting its first annual “Lights on the Lake” Boat Parade. The theme for this year is “Old West with Performances by State Parks." Staging for the event will begin at launch ramp 14, at 4:00 p.m. Spectator’s fee will be reduced to $3.00 per vehicle after 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the park at (909) 940-5645 or (909) 940-5647.

The Salvation Army is seeking the public’s help with food and financial donations for its annual community Thanksgiving Day Meal on November 25. Captain Darren Thomer of the Ontario Salvation Army anticipates serving 600 meals this year, which will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army’s church facility at 1420 S. Euclid Avenue, Ontario. For more information, please call (909) 966-6748.

Volunteers

The Small Business Development Center is offering a two-hour workshop on December 1 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. which focuses on the newest laws and changes from the SBA. To register, please call (909) 802-6374.

Mediation, the Sacred Journey, facilitator Na’limah D. Powell, M.D., RSCP. For pre-registration contact Myra Allen (909) 789-1739.

Dispute Resolution.

The Dispute Resolution Center is currently seeking community members to train as volunteer mediators. Qualified volunteers who commit to the program will receive 32 hours of training to become certified mediators. There is no cost for the certification. The fee for the mediation training class is $150.00. Classes are scheduled Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-9:10 p.m. For more information, call (909) 940-4903.

Support Groups

The Community Counseling Center at Cal State, San Bernardino is making appointments for adults facing such issues as depression, anxiety, traumatic life changes, relationship problems and eating disorders. A $10 fee is charged for each 50-minute counseling session. For more information, call the Community Counseling Center at (909) 860-5559.

Option House, Inc. offers support groups for women who are victims of Domestic Violence. Support Groups are free and confidential. Sundays 6:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Mondays 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Groups are held at Domestic Violence Outreach Center, 2629 North E St. in San Bernardino. For more information, call (909) 860-5682.

Teen Group Sessions, held Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30 p.m. held at Tri-City Violence Prevention Outreach Center, 960 S. Bloomington Ave., Ste. B, Bloomington. The group discusses conflict resolution, violence prevention, effective community skills and more. For more information, call (909) 860-0432 or (909) 381-3971.

Bookmobile Schedule

Residents in rural and remote areas of Western Riverside County will enjoy more convenient library service provided by a newly launched bookmobile operated by the Riverside County Library System.

Tuesday

Quail Valley Village - 11:00-11:30 a.m. biweekly.

Wednesday

Menifee Elementary School - 3:00-3:30 p.m. biweekly.

Glen Ivy - 9:45-10:30 a.m. weekly.

Wildomar - 9:45-10:30 a.m. weekly.

Landmark Mission Inn. "We're pleased and honored by the community response to this regional event, and look forward to hosting individuals and families alike, remarked John Worden, Executive Director of the Mission Inn Foundation. "The 26th Annual Mission Inn Run is Home Again!!"

Director of the Mission Inn Foundation Event Coordinator, Sharon Yanksee, was on the run, but a seasoned veteran of the Foundation’s Docorer program. "It’s an exciting event for the entire community. This year we’ve expanded the children’s opportunities by adding a half mile "Kids Fun Run" for young ones. We also continued the 1-mile "Kids Fun Run" for Moldes provided by Kaiser Permanente help every child feel like a champion on race day." Glass Ivy matchers register for the annual Next Enterprises/Mission Inn Run (U Participants of Mission Inn Run sign up and receive i ections for their participation.

Participants of Mission Inn Run sign up and receive t-shirts for their participation.

Mission Inn Run is Home Again!!

Do you want your event listed in our calendar section?

List: Who, What, When, Where and a brief paragraph Why, and why it is worth including. Submit Calendar Information:

Community Calendar Black Voice News - City Hall Office Box 1681 Riverside, CA 92502
Laidlaw/RCI Basketball Classic: Rialto Downs North

Fontana and Tucson plays tough, but Rialto is the one that knocks out North in tournament.

By LELAND STEIN III
Black Voice News Sports Editor

RIVERSIDE - A perennial power in the Inland Empire, Riverside John W. North, is seeing others in the area improve and use North as a gauge as to how far their program is progressing.

At the annual Laidlaw/RCI Classic held at North High, teams like Etiwanda, Fontana, Canada's Jasper Place, Perris, Rialto High, Rowland, Arizona's Tucson High and Moreno Valley Valley View, all surveyed the multitude of banners hanging from the rafters at North and put forth gallant efforts toward knocking out the host team.

The five-day tournament was a thrill filled basketball festival, full of wire-to-wire contest that kept many in attendance on the edge of their seats.

Surviving the onslaught of the competition, North, endured well enough to make it to the championship game against Rialto High.

The Knights, looking to make a statement about their quality and talent level, came out hyped and enthused against the Huskies.

The intensity level the Knights brought to the title game was not matched early by North as Rialto took a 43-31 halftime lead on the strength of a scorching defense and a solid 10-man rotation.

Rialto, despite a solid comeback attempt from North, held on to win 77-62.

"We should have beat that team," said North coach Mike Bartee, who has won two CIF titles and has produced the defining basketball program in the Inland Empire. "They were prepared and came in ready. We didn’t do some of the tricks this team is capable of doing and when you face a hungry team, the result will usually be a defeat."

"No matter the loss, the tournament was a success. The community support was exceptional and the game were competitive."

Added North guard Billy Jones: "We played hard, but we never really put it all together against Rialto. They are a good team, but if we had played our game, I think we would have won the title game."

Rialto’s David Joiner was the tournament’s MVP. In the title game Rialto’s Daniel Burnett led all scorers with 27 points and Micah Anderson paced North with 14.

Photo by Jon Gaede • BVN

SLIDING IN: North’s Micah Anderson (with the ball) carves out space between a host of Rialto defenders.

Photo by Jon Gaede • BVN

BUST A MOVE: North’s William Wynn (#11) tries to drive by Rialto’s David Joiner.

Photo by Jon Gaede • BVN

ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM: (I to r) Rialto’s Montrel Willingham, North’s Raji Burnett and Lionel Dixon, Tucson’s big man and Rialto’s David Joiner comprise the elite from the five-day basketball festival.

Photo by Jon Gaede • BVN

Sporting Stein’s Way

Is football season almost over??

Football season is slowly winding down and sports everywhere are looking forward to having baseball, soccer, and/or boyfriends back again.

Well, at least a preview is in order. Coming soon is the end of large maras (boys and men) dressed in colors you could never get them to wear on the street, while they are chasing, shoved, punched, kicked, pom-pommed, flirting, shouting, and jumping over each other in the pursuit of stripping or trying to get their pants on a small, but valued pigskin ball.

Coming soon is the end of more energy than you will ever see in your household — and it’s not a football season lingerie.

Much energy is expanded watching football games, running up and down the couch, depending on who scored or made some bad call or great play? Much energy is released creating some of the most out- ing and memorable experiences of the “boys” and seeing them all before the game begins, which adds an additional dimension of pre-game excitement.

Coming soon is the end of every TV in the household tuned to all the boys games being broadcast live from coast-to-coast.

The end of all those dedicated fans promptly getting on the phone to call another dedicated fan to talk about the game, shout about this spoiler that just occurred or is presently happening or is about to be played.

Coming soon is the end of all the pre-game reminiscence of all the sports pages of the games that were watched, the ones that were missed, and a look ahead at the ones that are scheduled to be played.

Slowly drawing near is the end of the season for the Raiders, Lions, Jaguars, Cowboys and others.

Rails, Broncos, Steelers, Titans, Seahawks, Spurs and Gauchos (just to name a few).

Soon to end is the male victory dance. Moves that you will never see on a dance floor. Moves that have been well choreographed and well practiced, that take on the look of anything from a fluid-feathered chiken to an all out chicken line.

Come see those wonderful spaces, those beautiful glides into the air zone and those all surprising leaps into the crowds.

Come see all the tight ends, linemen, naming backs, quarterbacks, punters and returners.

Come see them all in the bowl games, the Sugar, Fiesta, Rose, Orange, Palo, Pico, and Hawaiian, etc. — a take corner game.

A little more hype, a whole lot more commercials, a bunch more sports pages, and then maybe the end.

What will we do with all the time and attention we will surely have for less. Important women’s, girlfriends and mothers?

For standing by when all the above was going on in high volume, for making those extra laundry runs, and for all those late-night frettings the young people engage in.

For going out in the games, regardless of the weather, and sitting through them, asking questions that were never answered, watching plays that were never understood, and for those late-night frettings the young people engage in.

Surely, the long laundry lists of things that need doing will come out and get done. All the promises of time to be made up, will be made up. All of the football watching skills of energy, pre-emptiveness and open communication will now be turned over our way.

Unfortunately we’ll get that extra attention, that is, unless your husband, son or boyfriend is an avid football fan, an avid basketball fan, or an avid baseball fan or maybe they’re just an all around sports fan. In that case, get a good book, pull out all your unfinished projects, take a new community college class, get a health spa, let the sports season change and let the boys be boys.
He has his daddy’s eyes and his momma’s lungs.

Kyle is the splitting image of his father, but it’s his mother he really takes after. Like his mother, Kyle has a terrible cough.

Secondhand smoke is normal for children Kyle’s age; she doesn’t realize he is suffering from chronic bronchitis and asthma caused by exposure to cigarette smoke at home.

Unfortunately, Kyle’s parents, like many other caring parents are unaware of the very real dangers of secondhand smoke. If you smoke around your children the secondhand smoke can cause respiratory problems, some of them fatal, as well as increased allergic reactions, ear infections and flu symptoms. So, for your family’s sake, please stop smoke.

TO ORDER CALL 1-800-322-6963
LEgalS/CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds

In re the Change of Name of:

JOE'S ADVANCED BILLING SOLUTIONS, INC.
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

This business is conducted by an
individual.

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

The following person(s) is (are)
registered to do business in this state under the fictitious business name(s) listed:

Natasha Yvonne Rose
25060 Hancock Avenue
Riverside, CA 92508

The filing of this statement does not authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name.

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state document.

FILE NO. 998411
Riverside on 12/03/99.

Israel Millan, Jr.

Attorney for Petitioner

WHEREFORE, petitioner prays
that the name be changed as follows (list by full name and
pseudonym):

petitioner's real, true, and
fictitious name

Petitioner, has filed a petition with
the Court of California for the
change of name of,

JUDGE:

The father is unknown at this
time.

WHEREFORE, petitioner makes
petition to the Court, that

1111/99 8:30 a.m.

Petitioner, Daniel Miltzawa,
was born at,

in:

of name should not be granted.

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Attorney for Petitioner

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The Black Voice News

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Thursday, December 9, 1999

National Medical Assoc. Calls for Action on Asthma

Dr. Ernest C. Levister, Jr., M.D.

Dear Dr. Levister:

When you log onto a site, you’re offered a "consultation" so you can get a prescription. The consultation costs $5 to $85 and typically offers a separate source from someone who has a computer and a warehouse full of stolen drugs. What’s more the FDA says you can’t be sure that the drug you’ve ordered in within its expiration date, has been stolen correctly so that it’s authentic. In a hearing late December before the House subcommittee, the FDA heard testimony from an Ohio man who ordered Viagra online. Turned out the Viagra came from a druggist in Miami. It had been prescribed by a doctor licensed to practice in Mexico but not in the U.S. The unscrupulous physicians had no way of knowing that the patients had infiltrated his medical history and fabricated a story about his

Although a treatable disease, asthma affects 20 million Americans, more than 80 percent of whom are children. Asthma is an inflammatory disease that affects the airways of the lungs. It is characterized by symptoms such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, and a dry cough. These symptoms can be triggered by a variety of factors, including allergens, exercise, and respiratory infections.

The American Lung Association estimates that 80 percent of children with asthma are treated at school or by their pediatrician. However, many children with asthma do not have a personal physician. As a result, they may not receive the care they need to manage their condition.

Asthma is a chronic disease that affects millions of Americans, including children, adults, and seniors. It is a common cause of serious illness and death, and it is the leading cause of school and work absenteeism. Asthma is a disease of the lungs that causes inflammation and swelling of the airways, which can make it difficult to breathe.

Dr. Levister welcomes reader mail concerning their bodies and government agencies. New sites are continually springing up, and there’s often no way to separate a reputable source from someone who has a computer and a warehouse full of stolen drugs.

Pst!. Want Some Viagra?

Dear Dr. Levister: Recently I ordered Viagra and a new prescription diet drug, from a web site I found by searching for "diet drugs." In a few weeks, my pills arrived. After a few days, the drugs arrived less than a week after the order.

"But not in the US. The unscrupulous physicians had no way of knowing that the patients had infiltrated his medical history and fabricated a story about his

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SALUTE TO BLACK WORLD WAR II VETERANS ON PEARL HARBOR DAY
The Black Voice Salute to Black World War II Veterans

'99 Salute to Black World War II Vets

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Tuskegee Airmen: The Lonely Eagles
Local Vets Remember WWII
Ledbeter: A Testimony of Perseverance
Minter Recalls WWII

Saluting the African American Men and Women in Uniformed Services Past & Present

Thank you for your vision and commitment to our Country

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Cheryl Brown

This salute to World War II Veterans has been requested by popular demand. It is updated and improved. We hope you enjoy it and if you do, let us know and our advertisers.
By Cheryl Brown

Citizens of our nation watching the major media have come away with the impression Black men did not fight in World War II during this year of the 50th Commemoration. This angers the men who risked their lives and families whose loved ones gave their lives so we Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, Native American and others could have freedom.

When they returned home they were met with visible signs that they were inferior, they could not get jobs as their White counterparts could and everywhere they turned it was "Colored" here "White" there. The visible signs have been removed. Every says we are equal. Tell that to Nathaniel "Nate" John Grant, one of the Buffalo Soldiers who fought valiantly in the War. He was hurt 50 years ago when he came home to the visible signs of legal segregation but hurt even more because the visible signs are gone but his contributions were ignored as our country commemorated the 50th Anniversary of W.W.II.

Grant was one of the thousands and thousands of Black soldiers who fought valiantly in the War. He was born in Leavenworth, Kansas in 1921, and is a second generation Buffalo Soldier, his father was Master Sergeant John Grant, 10th Calvary (Retired).

The Buffalo Soldier, goes back to 1866, shortly after the Civil War, four new U.S. Army regiments began duty in the Western territories of America. These soldiers were sent to protect the settlers moving West. They were designated as the 24th and 25th Infantry and the Ninth and Tenth Calvary. They fought with distinction in the Cheyenne War from 1867-1869, the Red River War of 1874-1875, the Ute War of 1879, the Apache Wars of 1875-1876 and the Sioux War of 1890-1891. They received 13 Medals of Honor, achieved the best combat records and were given the title of Buffalo Soldiers by the Native Americans. There was much they did in the expansion of our nation and in 1952, 86 years after their beginning they were integrated with the Ninth and Tenth Calvary. They were the most highly decorated units in U.S. military history.

Grant, was a modern day Buffalo Soldier in the Ninth Calvary, who also served and retired from the U.S. Air Force. His duty began January 29, 1941, in Fort Riley, Kansas; soon he was transferred to Camp Funston, Kansas. "We began preparing for war. But we did not have the proper equipment. We practiced with wooden guns and used broom sticks to walk guard," said Grant. In 1941 there were maneuvers in Louisiana, there they were not allowed to go near the White community. The area was very prejudice against the soldiers.

In 1942 He was sent on a cadre to form the 93rd Infantry Division at Fort Wachuka, Arizona. He was a platoon Sergeant in the 93rd Calvary Recon. Troop. Between 1942 -43 he was sent to Fort McClellan, Alabama to form the 92nd Recon. Troop, again he was Platoon Sergeant.

By 1944, the 92nd Division was sent into combat. Grant's outfit was sent to Italy, where he received two Battle Stars, one from the battle in Povvalley the other from the Arnold River battle.

It was in Italy that Grant's life was saved by a stranger. An Italian woman, to whom he owes his life. He was in an area and the enemy began shelling their retreat. "She threw me down and laid on top of me protecting me from a shell that landed 10 to 12 feet away, he said. Neither of them were hurt but the idea that the Italian woman saved his life and he never knew who she was makes him think about it even today. "I am so grateful to a person I didn't know who I never saw again," said Grant.

When Grant received orders to go to Alaska, not wanting to be in such a cold isolated place he left the Army and joined the Air Force. This proved to be one of the best moves in his life. His first assignment in the Air Force was sunny California March A.F.B., "we (Blacks) were all assigned to Squadron C or F, they did housekeeping duties (cooking and cleaning) all except three had Air Force assignments. Grant was assigned to the Skeet Range because of his experience in weapons, this was 1946.

Between the years of 1946-1949, all Colored troops were sent to Lockburn, Ohio, near Columbus, under the leadership of Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. in the 617 Bombardment Squadron Light which was a support group of the Tuskegee Airmen. Grant was relocated and worked as an armament man, working on the guns. "We were the firstbase to integrate the Air Force," he said.

The Korean War broke out in 1950 -1951 and Grant was sent to Norton A.F.B. in San Bernardino.

The Korean War took him overseas to France for three years, when he returned in 1954 he was sent to George A.F.B. In 1958, Grant volunteered to go back to France. His career ended in 1961, when he retired from Glasco AFB, Montana.

Being in love with the weather in So. California, he returned and still resides in San Bernardino.

In 1970 he married for a second time, Alice Taylor, he has a son and daughter, Nathaniel Jr. and Linda.

---

William Hulsey

William Hulsey is a native of Los Angeles, California and has been a resident of San Bernadino since 1961. After graduating from Jefferson High School, he joined the United States Army and served in the European Theater of Operations during World War II. On "D" Day he was one of the troops who landed at Omaha Beach. At the end of World War II, he left the standing army and joined the U.S. Army Reserves from which he retired in 1982.

Hulsey worked in federal civil service for the United States Post Office for 10 years. On moving to San Bernadino in 1961, he continued in government service as an inspector at the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Barstow. He retired in 1982. Hulsey is well known for his work with young people of the westside community from 1961 to 1983, including director of the State Champion Pacesetters Drill Team, who were champions in three categories. In addition, he coached two girls softball teams, winning league championships for two years.

He has been responsible for the choreography and continuity of the Beautillion since its inception 28 years ago.
By Paulette Brown-Hinds

Over the past few years, Willie Porter of San Bernardino, noticed that the television broadcasts focused on the Buffalo Soldiers of the later 1800's. These “all Black” army units, were the soldiers that “won the west” and set the standards for the Buffalo Soldiers that followed. But little has been said about the Buffalo Soldiers of the 20th century, the last soldiers to carry on the proud tradition.

“My life as a Buffalo Soldier started at Camp Lockett in 1943,” said Porter. Camp Lockett is located east of San Diego and was first established as a cavalry camp in 1878. The location was chosen because it had a variety of terrain that includes heavily wooded underbrush, one of the world’s harshest deserts, and a variety of other geographic hazards that tested and developed a cavalry trooper’s skills.

“It was at Camp Lockett that I had my first personal experience with a horse. Being from Detroit I was considered a “city slicker” I was issued a beautiful horse that I named Eve. The first day of training was hard, but today I am considered an expert rider,” boasted Porter.

The Buffalo Soldiers trained intensely on horseback in anticipation of charging into battle overseas. He recalled his orders clearly, “The 9th and 27th regiments, located in Arizona, along with our two regiments made up the 2nd Cavalry Division. The 2nd Cavalry Division was shipped to North Africa in 1943 by way of Camp Patrick Henry. We sailed on the U.S.S. Billy Mitchell on its maiden voyage. We were scared but ready and proud to fight as a division. Upon reaching North Africa we received the shock of our lives.”

The Army Headquarters had decided to disband the 2nd Cavalry Division and it was divided. “In the cavalry we were called troopers. After the change we were called soldiers. I was assigned to a tank battalion,” recalled Porter. He received several commendations for his service including a Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and several citations for his participation in numerous invasions.

With the exception of a few White officers, the Buffalo Soldiers were composed entirely of African Americans. The name Buffalo Soldiers was given to the 9th and 10th Cavalry units as a sign of respect by the Indians they fought. Buffalo, according to military historian, David Allen, were worshipped and revered by the Indians. To place the title onto humans was truly an act of respect and honor. These early regiments achieved an outstanding record on the frontier. They reportedly patrolled from the Mississippi to the Rockies, from the Canadian border to the Rio Grande and they occasionally crossed into Mexico in pursuit of outlaws.

However, Bill Porter, regrets that he was unable to fight under the colors of the Buffalo Soldiers, “My success in combat can be traced back to the fine training that I received as a tradition handed down by these brave men. My heart fills with pride as having served as a Buffalo Soldier. Fifty-two years later, I returned to the small town of Campo to visit Camp Lockett. I toured the historical landmark. As long as I live, I will be proud of the fact that I was one of the few...Buffalo Soldiers.”

“\textbf{In Memory Of Those Who Fought So That We Can Live}”
Ollie Jackson A Proud Soldier

By Cheryl Brown

In 1943 while still in high school Ollie Jackson, 18, was drafted. The war effort was calling every young man who was in physical shape to fight. The war was in full gear and this Oklahoma City native who was born in 1925 was still a youngster. Jackson was a good student and his principal petitioned and was granted a deferment for him.

As Jackson reminisces about that time he says he'll never forget. "It hurts to this day, I could not graduate with my class," he said. But what hurts more is the way he was treated in those days but compounded by the way he has been treated 50 years later. He too is insulted, by the way the celebrations left out the Black soldiers. "Even the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) calendar came out to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of W.W.II and of all 12 months not one Black was recognized," Jackson said. They have written the Buffalo Soldiers out of history. "How can they continue to do this and not tell the truth about what happened," he said. Black soldiers were among the best most decorated soldiers in the Armed Forces," he said.

Jackson didn't know what to expect. He was the first in his family to serve in the military. Upon his induction into the Tenth Calvary (Buffalo Soldiers) Jackson went to Fort Seal, OK but quickly was sent out. He tells the story about the rumor that they were going to be shipped out to Mississippi. "When we found out we were going to Camp Locket in El Centro, California, we were ecstatic." We were training with horses and training because we expected Japan to come in from the West." They didn't and we were shipped to Newport News, Virginia before going to Oran in North Africa. From there we went to Tunisia on to Toronto, Italy to Foggia, Italy. Jackson's job was to prepare the landing fields and build a new runway for the B-17 and B-29 bombers to land. Jackson did not see combat but he was part of the glue that held the war effort together. He was the unsung hero in the background supporting the troops.

As the war was ending he was sent to the Philippines, his last stop before returning back to Oklahoma City. He holds the distinction of riding the Billy Mitchell troop transport ship on three occasions. His last time was to return to Oklahoma City where he started three years later.

He went to work as a civil service worker at Tinker AFB. He was a sheet metal worker. One day, he saw an opportunity on the bulletin board for a tour of duty in Japan. "When I found out my family probably could not follow, and the recruiter explained how the facilities were not really set up for "Coloreds", I abandoned the idea. She quickly added, "but there is Norton AFB, in San Bernardino, CA, that was just what the Doctor ordered. My sister lived here," he said. "So like the Beverly Hill Billies or the movie The Grapes of Wrath, my wife Berenice and five sons came to San Bernardino, CA in 1956."

As he reflected back on the war effort he said it was a time when Black people were truly equal. "In combat all men are equal. White men who were wounded didn't care whose blood they used they just wanted it if they needed a blood transfusion. A bullet knows no color," he said. Jackson recounted sadly, "after the war it was a different story, things were bad for Blacks here at home. Then when we were ignored this entire 50th Anniversary Commemoration. There are Blacks who should have been recognized!"

However, just in case someone asks, he has saved items from the war. Just recently he found his Enlisted Pass. Jackson has kept his treasures because in the next 50 years Commemoration the information and items will be there. The history will be here no one will succeed in erasing it.

Chief Warrant Officer Henry S. Cox served 34 years in the U.S. Army. His service began in July 1944 and ended in September 1978. In between those years he served on campaigns such as Rhineland, Central Europe, Second Korean Winter, FEC Japan, FECON Korea and also trained troops for Vietnam and man more.

He was awarded a Korea Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal and a National Defense Service Medal.

Throughout his entire military career he had been a great asset to the U.S. Army as per his superior officers and fellow comrades. Cox was a very dedicated officer.

He was always a rather mild mannered person but very adamant in performing his duties which meant maintaining the unit's equipment at top level.

He is the husband of Olga Cox and the proud father of one son, Henry G. Cox, two daughters Regina and Debbie.
In 1939, Europe was in flames. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared that the United States would be "Fortress America," the last bastion of freedom for all people. We were on the brink of entering the war.

The newly-formed Army Air Corps was quite sure that no Black man could learn to fly or even service a combat aircraft; however, the Black press, the N.A.A.C.P., members of Congress, and even the White House disagreed with this position.

Under considerable pressure, the War Department relented and undertook what was called the "Noble Experiment." It was tacitly considered to be doomed to failure, especially by those who initiated it. A separate and supposedly equal part of the Army Air Corps was created. (Equal in rank, but not equal in privilege.)

Due to the rigid pattern of racial segregation that prevailed in the United States during World War II, the War Department selected Tuskegee, Alabama for the base site - far away from the center of things. In spite of a lack of official confidence and support, and a remote location, 992 pilots were graduated from Tuskegee Army Air Corps Flying School, which also trained and developed some of the support personnel which would ultimately be needed to form combat units. Some of the technical and other support personnel were also trained at other locations, primarily Chanute, Illinois. Thus, the "Noble Experiment" resulted in the capability of forming a totally segregated unit of the Air Corps - pilots, navigators, bombardiers, gunners, and myriad numbers of technicians for ground support. Again separate but supposedly equal, as was the then governing status of all the U.S. military organization. This "Noble Experiment" group turned out 332nd Fighter Group were building envious reputations overseas, the 477th Medium Bombardment Group was authorized in the spring of 1943. It became operational in January 1945. The segregated training program restricted the number of men available for the bombardment group, and thus many months were required to properly man the group. The imbalance in the production of pilots and aircrews, followed by a shortage of trainees, and the group itself was continually blamed for these difficulties inherited from Air Corps command. It became generally felt that the integrated "qualified" White command personnel were in many cases using the 477th as a stepping stone for speed promotions, and were found in many instances to be sharpening their own inadequacies. This potent of trouble came to fruition in the spring of 1945 when 162 Black officers were placed under arrest for entering the "club," which the White command had attempted to segregate with White only membership and for refusing to obey an unlawful order. All White personnel were reassigned.

Fighting the adversities of a segregated military from the inside and an awesome enemy from the outside, the "Black Air Force" became a cohesive, motivated, and dedicated group.

Nearly thirty years of anonymity were ended in 1972 with the founding of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. as a non-political, non-military, and non-profit entity.

The Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. National Scholarship Fund has awarded in excess of $600,000 to young Americans for college education, without regard to race, religion, sex or creed.

In 1943, volunteering to go to TUSKEGEE ARMY AIRFIELD. After some obstacles put up by the powers to be, Oliver began his training in 1944. He graduated in class 44K as a Multi-Engine Pilot. Then joining the 447th Bomber Group at Godman Field in January 1945 and with hard work, he had his First Pilot's rating in six months. But in the Interim, he was involved in the famous FREEMAN FIELD MUNITION for going into the Officer's Club against the Commander's orders. Oliver was arrested with 161 other officers. There was a great amount of talk between the War Department and Congress before the dust was settled and all personnel was transferred out and replaced by Col. B. O. Davis.

The war in the Pacific was still going on and General D. McArthur asked for any and everybody that could fight to be sent to South Pacific for duty. They were then put together with the 99th fighter sqdn. to make up the 477th COMPOSITE GROUP and trained for the trip. But the President gave the AIR FORCE permission to drop the Bomb that ended the war.

After the surrender of Japan, all OFFICERS who were involved in the FREEMAN FIELD MUNITION were the first to be put out of the service as trouble makers. After trying to get back in the services on flying status for one year with no success, he took advantage of the Veteran act to finish his schooling. After getting his degree, he went back to work for the U.S. Government. He worked for twenty some years, retired and went into the photography business. Oliver worked in that field until the TUSKEGEE AIRMEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND was put together in 1978 and decided to make it a life long project. This they do to promote the goals of the TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, INC. in its efforts to give disadvantage youths a helping hand in their quest for a better life. They promote education into all youths without regard to race, religion, sex or creed.
By Cheryl Brown

Colonel Paul Green, a 33 year veteran of three wars scored so high on the test to become a pilot the first time he took it, his commander accused him of knowing someone in Washington, D.C. How did he get from being an orphan and growing up in Xenia, Ohio at an orphanage to a Full Bird Colonel is a story of tenacity, courage, and suppression.

Green was fresh out of the orphanage working at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio when he saw a poster recruiting men for pilot training. What happened when he passed the three part test in the highest category marked him for a later time when Blacks would be trained to fly. This was before there was a Tuskegee Flyer.

Green didn’t listen to the Army recruiter when he told him to tell the draft if they called he was on hold for pilot training. “I saw the opportunity to leave the state of Ohio and jumped at it,” he said. For three long days he rode the train, “I was ecstatic I was going to California, where the sunshine and beautiful people were. He was excited that is until he arrived 30 miles east of Indio. “All I saw was sand. I figured they made a mistake,” he told Black Voice News. There was no mistake.

After two months his commander sternly called him into his office. He said “you must know someone in Washington. You are going to pilot training.” Before long Green was on his way to Tuskegee, Alabama. The next year was very hard. Armed with a high school diploma he was behind and had to make up the equivalency of two years of college in six months. Tenacity paid off. He aced everything he had to learn and credits the orphanage training for his successes. His mother, grandmother and older brother all died when he was six years old, and his father was a disabled veteran gassed in WWII. Not knowing his mother, he only had the experience once of leaving the orphanage to live with an aunt, but six months later returned to the orphanage because of her death. “They told us in order to be successful these things were important.” He still speaks as though it was yesterday.

He had courage as he climbed the ranks. He exceeded each challenge. Two months into the army he became a corporal in the California desert.

Walterboro, South Carolina was a tough place because of the prejudice there, but Green sees the glass always half full. He’s proud of the Tuskegee memorial erected there last year.

Soon he was shipped out to Foggia, Italy where he flew combat with the 99th Fighter Squadron in the 332nd Fighter Group. He’s proud Lt Col. Benjamin O. Davis was his commander. Green spoke of the times he scolded him for buzzing the airfield. “I couldn’t help it, I was young and flying close to the ground was a thrill,” he said. “Wild” Bill Campbell was his immediate commander. Green flew 25 missions his plane had been shot but Tuskegee Airmen never lost a bomber during escort.

A nucleus of men were brought back before the end of the war to put with the 477 Composite Wing the plan was to send these “men of color” to So. East Asia, the war ended and Green left as a First Lieutenant. Out for a year, he went to work as a civilian, where he started, at Wright Patterson. Then the Korean war broke out. He returned to active duty with the idea of flying P-51’s, but flew C-47 support missions out of Japan and the war ended before further combat involvement.

In 1948, after integration, he was accepted into Electronics Officers’ School in Biloxi, Mississippi. He became dual qualified and added Electronic’s Maintenance Officer to his resume. He worked on airborne and ground electronic equipment that included radar systems.

In 1970 he went to Alaska and for a while was sent to an ice island. There were only three people and the work he accomplished was spectacular. The success of the mission won him a promotion to Captain and not longer was he on reserve status.

It was on to Rome, New York and for the next five years he flew B-29’s. Then on to Kiester Field in Biloxi, Mississippi. He was a staff Electronics Officer. Following that assignment he was stationed in Tokyo, Japan.

After that tour of duty he went to Carvallias, Oregon for two years before going on to Eglin AFB Florida. This was a time that the Army and Air Force were fighting over who should control the 6th Wing Air Fleet. Green was running tests on ground environment equipment. He picked up the rank of Lt Col. Vietnam was in full swing and he left to fly combat. But he didn’t stop there, as a C-130 Mission Commander, he had to make sure of the ground operations. Once he recalls he thought he was dead. “The jeep I was sitting in went 10 feet off the ground the GI’s had moved in and were shooting at the Viet Cong., they formed a perimeter of protection around the airfield,” he said. It was at McGuire in New Jersey that he made Full Colonel and went to Germany for four years. When time came to move, he requested the place of sunshine and beautiful people, California.

In 1974 he came as Deputy Chief of Logistics at Norton Air Force Base. After the unfortunate, unexpected death of Base Commander Colonel Mistrot, he was placed in his position. In 1976 Full Bird Col. Paul Green retired after thirty three years of service. He and Angel, his ever faithful wife of 53 1/2 years and two children, set roots down in the area.

It took courage to fight in the wars he fought but it took more courage as he recalls one time flying home 30 body bags, dog tags on the outside. He says he was, and remains, most disturbed by how the American people treated those young boys who went to Vietnam. “Despite who or what race they were, they were dead. They didn’t have a chance to live,” he said.

Green also had a solution to problem people who have prejudices, “I get in difficult situations and figure out how to improve them,” he said. Then he related an example. “One time there was a very prejudice pilot the same rank, I had something he wanted that is to be proficient in electronics. As I worked with him I found his problem was he had never been exposed to Blacks). He had never left his hometown. The man did have an attitude adjustment, but it was because his desire to have the information was greater than his prejudice.

Green recalls one time having an experience while in uniform, a callous person remarked to him “live by the sword, you die by the sword.” Since he was the exception to the rule my spirit wasn’t broken,” he said.

“I’ve seen slaves in two African countries in the gold mines. I lived in rice paddies; I’ve seen the gas chambers in Germany and I’ve come to the conclusion this country has more to offer than any other in the world. This is the Promise Land.” We must Love, Hope, and work hard.

Paul Green
The Black Voice Salute to World War II Veterans

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Thursday, December 9, 1999

Rev. B. W. Inghram’s Quest to Find Lost History

By Cheryl Brown - Black Voice News

Rev. B. W. Inghram was drafted in 1942 out of San Bernardino and sent to Fort Wachuka, Arizona where he and a battalion of men trained for the World War II effort. During the news coverage of the war through the years he never heard about the 780th Police Battalion who were located there. Inghram, feeling that he wasn’t included decided to do something about it. “It seemed like my history and the history of the 800 men was being forgotten or ignored,” he said.

“I don’t feel I was included in the war with the coverage during the 50th Commemoration ceremonies. They at least recognized the 99th and 93rd Regiment, but even Washington D.C. didn’t have the information that we ever existed.”

Inghram started a letter writing campaign to find out what happened to the history of the 780th. His quest and interest took him first to Fort Wachuka, the historical society said they never heard about the 780th Police Battalion. They didn’t know either. The quest continued as he would not rest until he found the records. He did! Following contact with the McClellan base in Georgia he found out they had the information.

Inghram wants the record to reflect the contributions of the 780th to the war effort.

When Inghram left Fort Wachuka, he was sent to Fort Devens, Massachusetts and shipped out of Newport News, Virginia, from there a nine day boat trip to Morocco. He arrived on Easter Sunday, a special time for him as a Christian and minister.

The troops were then deployed to Marseilles, France, where he and others in his company, moved the traffic of military vehicles going to the front line. “We were as essential as any of the support troops, without the 780th the troops could not be serviced and the war would have suffered. General Patton advanced so fast he outran his supply support.

Inghram was shipped back to Fort McArthur in Long Beach and was honorably discharged.

He said, “I felt, I did my duty. I got out of the service. I came home. WE WON THE WAR.”

The Minor Post Helped Locate Hospital And Cemetery In Inland Empire

By Cheryl Brown

The Riverside American Legion Post

418 named for Edward J. Minor and was formed in 1962. Minor lost his life in an unfortunate drowning accident in Lincoln Park on Park Ave. in Riverside. Minor was a clean living, an upright service man, from Atlanta, Georgia. He was head cook at Camp Anza, located where Rohr is located in Riverside. He died in 1944 and was the first to die in the Army group that formed the Post. When the men who were organizing the Post found out it had to be named for someone who was not living Minor was chosen. “Mr. Minor was known by many as a clean living, decent man and we name the Post after him,” said Christopher George “C.G.” Sanders, the Founding Commander who served the first 4 years and is still involved.

The Minor Post is a working Post they have been involved in the UNCF (United Negro College Fund) Walk-a-Thon helping provide money for the education of students, the Veteran Employment Committee where they help Veterans to find jobs as well as other non-profit organizations and activities.

The Minor Post is responsible for the Pettis Memorial Veteran’s Hospital in Loma Linda, they cast the three deciding votes. During the debate of where the next hospital would be placed Post members faithfully attended meeting and supported the Loma Linda site. There were many detractors vying for the hospital. “It was a hot political thing. Every politician wanted it in their area. (Congressman Jerry) Pettis, (for whom the hospital is named), fought very hard for the Loma Linda site. In the end, with the help from the Post Loma Linda was selected.” Two things solidified the site, one there were more veterans in Southern California than other areas; two, a Veterans Hospital must be placed in an area with a training facility, Loma Linda met the qualifications.

Additionally, the Post was instrumental in the placement of the National Cemetery in Riverside. “Land had been donated somewhere in Los Angeles for the Cemetery. The hotly contested site ended in court. For five years we attended meeting and gave our input. Oregon was in line and lobbied hard for it,” said Sanders. However, they showed the Riverside location was best because, the land formerly housed, Camp Hann, was owned by the government and highways 395 and 60 were nearby.
Mitchell Served His Time Well Overseas 50 Years Ago

James Mitchell was a member of the Army 953 Quarter Master Service Corps during W.W.II. "We landed in Scotland in the bombing area, before going to Cherbourg and Paris, France." His unit was under General Patton and they handled supplies in the segregated army. When he went to England, he went to school to learn how to be a cook and that was his job for the duration of the War. As a result of his duty in the Army he has a Northern France campaign ribbon, a ribbon with a Bronze Star, a service stripe, four overseas service bars and sharp shooter recognition.

When I came back to Texas to be discharged, Fort Sam Houston, had not changed it was still segregated. We didn't just fight for ourselves (in Europe) we were fighting for everybody.”

Mitchell, saw first hand the devastation of the war. After the war he saw the remains of all those Jews, who were starved to death. He saw the gas chambers and the furnaces. It had a bad affect on him but he knew the magnitude of the devastation caused by Hitler. It was so devastating he does not want to talk about it to this day.

Thinking California was a better place he left Texas. Soon he found out “it was better but there were still places we couldn’t go or (restaurants) that were slow serving you. One place was located on Fourth and E in downtown San Bernardino. However, the city of Tustin was strictly like down south,” he said. They would get through when the Whites couldn’t. The Stars and Stripes, (a military publication) would report on it but would never give the details,” he said.

IN MEMORY OF:

Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of World War II

They Died So That We Could Live!

- Dave And Maude Clurbach remembers James Billue
- Jack Hill remembers Thomas Bondurant

To my Army Comrades of Co. B 1402nd Engr. Battalion
- Dr. Will Roberts

Saluting The Living Legends

- Thanks to Jack Hill For My Army Career
- Leonard Davenport

Minter Tells His WWII Story

By Cheryl Minter-Brown - Black Voice News

This year marks the 50th of the Word War II. From the television coverage, you'd think none of the troops were Black.

Marvin N. Minter, after 50 years of silence, spoke with Black Voice about the days following the assault on Normandy, located on the beach of France.

Minter said two million troops were still in England on D-Day. They were waiting for to go into Normandy as a part of the second wave.

He was in the Third Army, commanded by General Patton, supporting Field Artillery.

Minter said every everyone was scared. “It was the most frightening experience of my life. But I remember thinking, as I was trapped by live fire, in 50 years none of this will matter.” Little did he know that 50 years later he would still be alive to talk about it.

Minter then recalled something that some people want to say never happened, the concentration camps.

“We were marched into the concentration camp at Dachau, there were thousands of bodies, left like sacks of flour. The smell was horrible,” he said.

“Hitler was an absolute lunatic, an animal. He not only killed Jews, he killed Russians, gypsies, gays, cripples, and the mentally impaired,” he said.

Minter recalls "When we arrived everyone was not dead, some of the people were dying from starvation. The Germans in Hitler's Army ran away before we met.
Local Vets Remember WWII After 50 Years

By Cheryl Brown
Black Voice

The World War II, global military conflict, in terms of lives lost and material destruction, was the most devastating war in human history. It began in 1939 as a European conflict between Germany and an Anglo-French coalition, but eventually widened to include most of the nations of the world. It ended in 1945, leaving a new world order dominated by the United States and the USSR.

More than any previous war, World War II involved the commitment of nations' entire human and economic resources, the blurring of the distinction between combatant and noncombatant, and the expansion of the battlefield to include all of the enemy's territory. The most important determinants of its outcome were industrial capacity and personnel. In the last stages of the war, two radically new weapons were introduced: the long-range rocket and the atomic bomb. In the main, however, the war was fought with the same or improved weapons of the types used in World War I. The greatest advances were in aircraft and tanks.

Causes of the War

Three major powers had been dissatisfied with the outcome of World War I. Germany, the principal defeated nation, bitterly resented the territorial losses and reparation payments imposed on it by the Treaty of Versailles. Italy, one of the victors, found its territorial gains far from enough either to offset the cost of the war or to satisfy its ambitions. Japan, also a victor, was unhappy about its failure to gain control of China. France, Great Britain, and the U.S. had attained their wartime objectives. They had reduced Germany to a military cipher and had reorganized Europe and the world as they saw fit. The French and the British frequently disagreed on policy in the post-war period, however, and were unsure of their ability to defend the peace settlement.

The U.S., disillusioned by the Europeans' failure to repay their war debts, retreated into isolationism.

American-Indian soldiers fought with valor in this war as they had in every war since the Revolutionary War. But it wasn't until World War II, that gave the segregated colored soldiers proof they were many times the best soldiers in the armed services. The fighting was not only by the Tuskegee Airmen but in the Army, Navy and Marines as well. They were in a foreign land fighting for freedom when they were not free back home.

Local retired soldiers recently reflected on the war, their thoughts of success, and their treatment by people they were defending and the people as they returned home. They expressed concern over the demise of the important heroic role they played in America, and the world free. They were also blatantly ignored by the television coverage of the 50th Anniversary of V-E Day, commemorating the end of the war, and subsequent programs.

Dr. Will Roberts
President of Company B, 1402nd Engineer (Combat) Battalion, feels that history has done an injustice by not publishing the role Blacks played. His unit supplied more ammunition to the front line infantry than anyone else, but when the citation came out in the "Stars and Stripes" it was barely mentioned. "They merely printed that large amounts of ammunition had been supplied," said Roberts.

"If the Infantry couldn't get the ammunition they couldn't fight," he continued, "We did a good job, everyone played their part." But when they returned home from the war, Roberts said, he felt betrayed.

Roberts told the story of the black soldiers told the American people, especially women, about Black soldiers. "They would tell them we were trained monkeys and that we had tails. One day as I was walking down the street two women walking by felt my behind and said in Italian, he doesn't have one." The things our soldiers had to endure!

Carl Clemons, who was enlisted in the Navy, said as he reflects back to returning home, San Bernardino still had the same poor employment practices. "The only jobs available were as elevator operators, maids or janitors. Except for Kaiser, Santa Fe or Norton there was no where Blacks could work," Clemons recalls.

Benton PK. Blakely, retired as a major after serving 23 years in both WWII and Korea. "Blacks were a major part of the war, the coverage in the news does not tell to the fullest extent what we did." Blakely was a Corpman in the Army corps of Engineers. He built roads, bridges and dams.

Jack Hill, was also concerned that the time he spent is ignored. With all of the outstanding contributions we made, very little is written. "When I was in the service the governor of Mississippi had the guns taken away from the Black soldiers, they couldn't bear arms. In the local town of Centerville a Black soldier was killed by some Whites. The soldiers were very angry and for three months we couldn't come out of the camp," he said.

Roberts recounts a story he heard from Captain Ernest Dunn, organizer and First Company Commander of Company B 1402nd Engineer (Combat) Battalion. According to Dunn, "At March Air Force Field, soldiers broke out fighting. The Black Airmen rebelled when they set-up a segregated theater. The account was glossed over in the newspaper."

All the men said they felt betrayed. Clemons indicated that the thing that struck them was that they fought for freedom for Europe but did not get freedom nor respect when they returned home. "We served in the military to preserve freedom for other countries. The real ability to achieve equality in our own country was still our number one war," he said.

Jack Hill, although he felt betrayed, still developed a love for the service. "I lived at a good time. I was in Europe when they mixed the troops years later, it was hard on everyone. Some White guys said it was the first time they'd ever slept next to a Black. Because of my love for the military I endured the hardships," he said.

Roberts said, "We have always been patriotic, I take ownership of our country. It took 30 years after the war to get equal rights, and Affirmative-Action. It took until 1975 to get some teeth. It seems everytime we get close, they move the starting gate," he said. Roberts indicates he went to school for 22 years to get an education so he could better himself and make life better for his family. "Then they tell you, you need experience. You get the experience then they say you are too old. The rules keep changing. We need rules that do not change. Affirmative-Action is what keeps the playing field level. I don't want anyone to give me anything. I went to school for 22 years and worked two and three jobs a day to get luxuries," he said.

With all of the incidents of hate, strife, and mean spirit-ness they still agree with all of its faults this is still the best country in the world. Clemons said, over the last 50 years, I'm proud to see we Blacks have played a major role in government, education, law enforcement, and housing. Back then there was no legal means to have them employ us (no Affirmative-Action), so we had to depend on the NAACP. However, if it hadn't been for the war we'd probably still be in the dark ages," he commented.

Blakely said, "It was quite an experience serving this country for 23 years. Fifty years after the war there is still unrest and fear between countries. I hope and pray one day this will be resolved and everyone can live in peace."

There were as many stories as men who lived them, we touched base on only a few. If we don't tell our own story no one will do it for us. History is just that His-Story. This is a part of theirs.

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica
Charles Ledbetter: A Testimony Of Perseverance

By Melvin Tapp

War is hell, war is glory. As history has shown, so the present is shaped. Many have seen the horrors of life and survived to see better days.

Charles William Ledbetter has seen life and has lived through the horrors of war, and has gloried in the life's endeavors. His is a testimony of perseverance. From the testimony of battle as a 30 year war veteran as part of the now famous Tuskegee Flyers to the compassionate teacher of the handi-capped, to a civic leader championing the cause of a better education for our children.

Ironically, he has seen and lived life on life's terms, but is constantly fighting to have our children to realize a brighter future by refusing to repeat mistakes of the past.

Black Voice News contacted Mr. Ledbetter who related that we Americans must look back sometimes to see where we are heading.

"In 1941, I went to the army, which was segregated. In 1944 I was sent to gunnery school and aircraft engineer school at Fort Myers, Florida. I was assigned to the group known as the Tuskegee Flyers as an enlisted man shortly thereafter at Selfridge Field, MI, which is just outside Detroit," related Ledbetter. After a few weeks the Flyers, including Ledbetter, were moved to Kentucky for further training and onto Lockburn, OH.

"In those days, we had White commanders and the rest of the enlisted ranks, from the First Sergeant on down were Blacks. Our commander was B. O. Davis who was quite liberal in his thinking and very fair with us. Actually, we generally disciplined ourselves as we had pride in ourselves and would not allow anyone inside the group to mess us, and we protected ourselves from outside disrupters," related Ledbetter.

Ledbetter was a gunner engineer for eight years with the Tuskegee Flyers and was a part of several missions during World War II. "The most notable of the Flyers was Chappie James who went on to become a General, but nearly all of the guys in the Flyers were great fellows and all were extremely competent," stated Ledbetter.

Even though the military services were segregated at the time, all enlisted men and officers were encouraged to further their education. "It was a way to keep us out of the bars and honky-tonk seven days a week, and the classes were integrated. I started in an Ohio State University extension and went on to a University of California Berkeley extension at the various military bases that I was assigned to," continued Ledbetter, "and most of the Flyers also continued with their educations."

Additionally, Ledbetter was a boxer and fought his way to the middleweight championship. "I was pretty good," he stated, "and I admired Sugar Ray Robinson, but I never met him inside the ring." Ledbetter related that when he and his compatriots did have time to party that he was one of the disciplinarians. "If somebody got out of line, White or Black often times we'd have to knock them out. And I had no problem handling that, but most times we just would break up any encounters," said Ledbetter. "Actually we had very few problems, especially in racial matters. From my perspective being from the South (Tennessee) I was used to segregated policies, but for many of the guys from up north there were some adjustments that they weren't too comfortable with," stated Ledbetter.

"Actually, we Blacks seemed to enjoy our military experiences especially our flying missions, and when we would return we'd get entertained by such stars as Lena Horne or meet Joe Louis, and sometimes we would have integrated audiences," continued Ledbetter.

After an eight year stint with the Tuskegee Flyers, Ledbetter was assigned to the 13th Bomb Group known as the "Grim Reapers" which was an integrated unit at Langley Field, VA. "The Korean War had just begun and we flew 29 missions during the Korean War," said Ledbetter. While in the Orient Ledbetter learned Judo while stationed in Korea & Japan. "I was good enough eventually to teach martial arts (judo) to kids and some adults," stated Ledbetter.

The Army Aircorp which included the Tuskegee Flyers had been converted to the U.S. Air Force by that time, and Ledbetter was now a sergeant in the Air Force where he completed his education and received a secondary teaching credential from Chapman College where he specialized in teaching the handicapped.

"I had taught boxing and judo and I guess that wet my appetite to continue in teaching. I was especially interested in teaching handicapped children, both physically & psychologically. I have always been for the underdog, and I guess that the handicapped usually get the short end of the stick," said Ledbetter.

Ledbetter retired from the Air Force at March Air Force Base in Riverside, and as a resident in Moreno Valley (then Sunnymead), began teaching in the Perris School District. "I loved teaching. It was so fulfilling to see students respond. I always gave my best, and I expected my students to do well. The biggest problem I met with was in motivating them to do their best. I believe that if a person is confident he will succeed, and with the handicapped, I found most were lacking confidence due to their treatment by families, teachers, and others in the past. I had to first of all get them confident in their abilities," continued Ledbetter.

Ledbetter related that at an early age he learned fairness from a White man. "I had no father, so this White man, Mr. Chipps who helped raise me in Tennessee taught me to be fair, but kick butt if someone got out of line or I was bothered," stated Ledbetter. "So I have had that philosophy which I related to my students. If you aren't treated fairly kick butt in the classroom with your studies. Always do your best, and even though you might be mistreated do your best to be fair with others," said Ledbetter.

When asked about his accomplishments, Ledbetter responded, "My military career that included my time with Tuskegee Flyers and awards for flying including the Bronze Star & Air Medal w/clusters stands out but the teaching of some of my past students who have become successful business people, college grads, and one became a missionary, are of great importance to me. The activities of the school board that I'm a member of is very special to me. And I also give lectures on motivational topics and behavior modification, and to see the response in a positive way is quite satisfying. But most noteworthy is my family. I've been married over 40 years and I have five grown children (one son, four daughters) of whom I am very proud. My basic philosophy is to be loyal, appreciate God and why we are put on earth, to help each other especially the kids. Keeping an open line of communication to solve differences, and having good friends at Warner Ranch "Where I Live,are important to me," said Ledbetter.

To live a full and rich life is the dream of everyone. A model of that kind of life is that of Charles William Ledbetter, fighter, educator, philosopher, husband, father, civic leader and gentleman.

Ledbetter has since retired from the School Board and still works out at the gym daily.
ATTENTION:

University of California, Riverside, Cal State San Bernardino, San Bernardino Water District, Riverside and San Bernardino County School Districts, Edison, The Gas Co., Metropolitan Water District
The President Signed
HR 1568

August 17, 1999

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