Roxie Roker, who became coordinator of Public Relations for the Water Department and Mother of the League for Non-Violent Defenders of Rights, was born on August 23, 1926, in New York, New York. She began a career in television in the 1950s and later became a member of the league and set an example for her generation. In 1969, she resigned from NBC.

In 1973, Norman Lear summed her up: "Roxie Roker Kravitz, well known for her groundbreaking role as Helen Willis, on "The Jeffersons," is being honored by a celebration in her name. Roxie made Los Angeles her home, and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She began a career in television in the 1950s and later became a member of the league and set an example for her generation.

Roxie was a Tony in the 1970-74 Broadway season of "The Matchmaker," and was nominated for the Best Supporting Actress category and was nominated for the A Hattie M. Strong Foundation Fellowship. Roxie was honored with a Tony Award for her role as Helen Willis, on "The Jeffersons," and was a member of the league and set an example for her generation.


NewsLetter INFORMATiON

THE INLAND EMPIRE IN BLACK AND WHITE

Stop At Your Nearest Circle "K" Pick Up A Copy Of The Black Voice News!

Part VI Underground Railroad Experience

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE PERMIT NO. 1425

Insider: World War II Tabloid

C en tury S ays No To Reparations

Announced at the ceremonial dedication of the new courthouse in San Bernardino, Calif., on October 21, 1995, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to reject the notion of reparations for slavery.

The board's decision was based on the fact that the U.S. government has never formally acknowledged or apologized for the institution of slavery, and that the issue of reparations for slavery is a highly controversial one.

The decision to reject the notion of reparations for slavery was met with mixed reactions.

"We are not going to get anything from a pig but a pig sty," said the Rev. L. Ron Hubbard, a member of the church that had been the target of the Koon incident.

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"We are not going to get anything from a pig but a pig sty," said the Rev. L. Ron Hubbard, a member of the church that had been the target of the Koon incident."
By John Cawthorne  
National veteran Urban League

The nineteenth century saw the rise of the American Civil War. It was a time of great significance for African Americans, as it was the period when they gained more rights and freedoms.

Derek Brown 10th, 1:00 PM

Wish List (for a news media, except that night when citizens asked never spoke to the family. His duty was only to speak to the family and be counted,” he concluded.

Rev. Gibson said, “We are going to the Mayor or the Sheriff but we need a Bible!”

As many know, the National Urban League, and its 114 affiliated Chapters, has always been that “we as a people through our collective strength and discipline can bring about a better day for our children and for the Negro.”

Black Lives Matter!

By Dr. Ernest Leverett

• Don’t use the new polycarbonate condoms.

Several studies have found that polycarbonate condoms are more likely to be used during unprotected sex, which can increase the risk of sexually transmitted infections.

• Black males with curly hair avoid shaving ingrown hairs. To avoid this, shave only through the length of hair.

A coiled or spiral hair can give you a more likely to cause ingrown hairs. Shave

Information on this page may vary due to quality and quantity of submitted and distributed data.

• A clear understanding of Black America we expect that all of the nation’s leadership individuals and organizations will be in attendance to discuss the status of the African-American agenda, on a local and national level, when we meet in Nassau, The Bahamas, Jan. 28-30.

*Unique Designs Outlet*
California Brings High Technology To The Fight Against Smog

The State of California is increasing its high-technology use in fighting vehicle emissions. The newest high-tech weapon is in the clean air arsenal in the Remote Sensing Device (RSD).

The new device mandates require every state with pollution control strategies for vehicle emissions testing programs, and to become more effective in identifying and either repairing or removing from the roads vehicles with the dirtiest exhausts.

Mrs. Marilyn Keller, Chief of the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair, said, "The largest amount of vehicle emissions in California are produced by only a small percentage of the cars. For the Smog Check II program to succeed, it is vital that we identify these cars as early as we can, because the most harmful emissions are often invisible to the eye. RSD will help us to identify those cars."

A total of ten RSDs will be deployed throughout California by the end of September 1995. RSDs combine infrared technology with high-speed photography to identify the highest-emitting vehicles. RSD units—housed inside vans or trailers, and sometimes stationary—will be set up on major thoroughfares.

Vehicles drive through an infrared beam projected across the roadway. The detector takes multiple measurements in less than a second, and sends the data to a computer inside the unit. The computer calculates levels of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and carbon dioxide in the exhaust. At the same time, a high-speed video camera takes pictures of the passing vehicles, including the license plates.

Keller said a vehicle will have to be identified more than once as a gross polluter before the state takes any action. "At that point," he noted, "we will mail a notice to the vehicle's owner, that gives step-by-step instructions on actions that need to be taken to bring the car into compliance with vehicle emission standards."

RSDs use Non-Dispersive Infra-Red (NDIR) technology, which has been used to monitor industrial exhaust stacks since the early 1960s.

The first remote sensing device to use this technology was developed by Lockheed for the Air Resources Board, under a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in the late 1970s. Although the device showed potential, emissions readings from the equipment were inconsistent.

The first successful remote sensing device for automotive use was invented by the University of Denver in 1987. Today, two firms manufacture the devices; Hughes Aircraft Company's Santa Barbara Research Center, subsidiary of General Motors, and Remote Sensing Technologies, a Division of Environ Inc.

The State of California plans to contract for approximately 50 RSDs to be in operation by the end of 1996. Currently, about 250,000 units exist in the world. In addition to California, they are located in Alaska, North Carolina, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Sweden, Austria, and Canada.

In California, the units will be placed at sites determined through a complex formula which takes into account such factors as the amounts of traffic, whether most vehicles passing the site tend to be cruising, accelerating or decelerating, and slope of the roadway.

Community's Support Gives Anderson Reason To Smile

We will be less than a thousand years old by 2100, a date that appears to be a challenge and a puzzle to our species. We will be less than a thousand years old, yet we can be content in our lives. We can be content because we are making progress on our journey to the future.

The present person who was so seemingly interested in the future work of 16th Ward, who was always ready and willing to do what was asked, Anderson and her family along with many others who have shown interest in the entire ward, rode in caravans and attended all meetings that were asked of them. Anderson has said that she wants to bridge the gap and be a part of the 16th Ward residents who have shown potential, emissions readings from the devices; Hughes Aircraft Company's Santa Barbara Research Center, subsidiary of General Motors, and Remote Sensing Technologies, a Division of Environ Inc.

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Community's Support Gives Anderson Reason To Smile

Willie Garrett of Best Yet Promotions, said, "The people who worked so diligently to support the incoming council person, Betty Drakes Anderson, in the 6th Ward of San Bernardino City. We are so pleased to announce that the strategic work of successful alliances with similar organizations would not be realized. Namely, Biggie Green and James Sweeney, Campaign Consultants were instrumental in getting the mail - ballot process established.

Garette states that out of more than 25 years in campaign involvement and campaign management, Anderson has been, by far, the most successful dream. Peace on earth is an example of the dedication that Drakes Anderson show in the campaign.

One of the most beautiful applications of mathematics is Computer Science. Computers depend on mathematics for their very operation. As you probably know, computer utilize programs, subprograms, and algorithms to accomplish tasks. These algorithms are based on mathematical relationships.

The computer utilizes and interesting branch of mathematics called Boolean algebra, to create logic. Boolean algebra is a system of logical operations such as "true" and "false" statements. Boolean algebra and logical operations such as "and," "or," "not" and "and" are used.

This decade is an exciting time for Computer Science because computers can now analyze groundbreaking changes are happening. Many of these changes are due to advances in processor speed and memory storage. These advancements are due to the exciting use of Artificial Intelligence. Yet, the challenges remain. How can we create logic that actually think for themselves? How can compute reason based on "Neutral Networks" and not just the human brain? We would be less than a thousand years old by 2100, a date that appears to be a challenge and a puzzle to our species. We would be less than a thousand years old, yet we can be content in our lives. We can be content because we are making progress on our journey to the future.
CBSM Recognizes Former Superintendents At Annual Conference

By Cheryl Brown - Black Voice News

There are over 1000 school districts in the state of California, only 20 of them are headed by African-American Superintendents. They have formed an organization to address the critical issues in education through public policy as it relates to the status and performance of African-American students. The President of the California African-American Superintendents is Rex Fortune, Superintendent of Center Unified School District. The Superintendents and the Coalition of California Black School Board Members last week reconvened former superintendents of public schools in California at a reception sponsored by Francis and Anderson Architects, held in Long Beach at the California School Board Association's annual conference. Some have retired others have left the state for other positions, many remain open to consult with school districts. Former Rialto Superintendent, Dr. Martin Forzwirth, made introductions and spoke on the urgency of the issues in education. He is now Superintendent of Hayward USD.

Also honored by the Superintendents was Hardy Brown, retired San Bernardino Trustee. Brown received two recognitions at the conference. The other was from the San Bernardino County educator, Dennis Melton, Trustee, Rialto USD, and Brown was a true leader, and cited some of the educational accomplishments he achieved in the last 12 years. In accepting the award from current Superintendents, each recipient was given time to respond. The grandaddy of them all was former State Superintendent, Wilson Riles. Riles was introduced by Dr. Charles Nash who said, "Wilson left a piece of history, a note model and successful bot- Hamilton." His concern at this time in his life is to see that everyone is treated fairly. He also told the story of how he became the top educational head in the state. He traveled into the smallest communities and talked to people about educating children, and not just any children. He made the mes- sages very clear. Because he has met with people all over the State, and has kept in contact with many, he admonished, the crowd, to be careful of putting white in the same bag. "We cannot categorize all whites," he said. He pointed out that it is a Black man who is leading the fight to do away with Affirmative Action. The Intergroup Relations Office was set up to help districts to understand the (racial) problems we have. The whole office has been eliminated.

He told the story of how the community where he lived would not let him feel sorry for himself when he lost both of his parents before he was 14 years old. He was in a segregat- ed system and no teacher ever told him he couldn't learn. "Yes, you can learn, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, you would say. I owe the children. I must continue to show the way, to lead them," he said.

Ted Kimbrough, formerly of Compton and now the head of Chicago's Public Schools gave credits to the former superintendents in education. He said he met with people all over the state. Dr. George McKenna, for- merly of Ingleside School District said, "we are awe- some. We are helping children to be successful in a system that was never meant to be suc- cessful for our children.

William "Bill" Murray, (for- merly) Franklin-McKinley Elementary District, was the first Black in the state to move successfully from one district to another. This is why he said, "I don't have the fact we had tough assignments." They helped develop him into what he is today. Dr. Lavonia Steele, (for- merly) Lynwood Unified School District and Berkeley USD, "remember we are not an employment agency. Remember why we are here. THE KIDS."

Dr. Leonard Osborne, (for- merly) Grant Union High School District reminded us, "no examples, anyone who looks like you, of all people, should never deny children of a future." He was referring to the obstacles that face Black people which have been so great that we should help every child to attain success in school because of the way the way we have been treated. He too comment- ed that Dr. Wilson Riles set examples for others to follow.

Hardy Brown was presented his award by the incoming President of the California School Board Association, Becky Sergeant. She told of how Brown was responsible for one of the organization's most successful conferences, last year. He is the first school board member to receive an award. He admonished the group to "Pass it on. The rea- son we are in the shape we are is because we failed to tell the story," he said.

Others to be awarded are: Dr. Hazel Mahone, (formerly) Grant Union High School District, Dr. Harry Reynolds, Eastside Union High School District, Beaumont, Ton, Public Schools, Dr. Alonso Cimb, Compton and Atlana Public Schools, Dr. Rudy Crow, Sacramento, Tacoma, New York, Dr. Lloyd Dickey, Willowbrook Elementary USD, Dr. Paul Lopovor, Willowbrook Elementary School, Chicago Public Schools, and African-American Superintendents in California, 1956 to 1960, Dr. Ruth Love, Oakland USD, Chicago Public Schools, Dr. Philip Lipson, Pasadena USD, John Miner, Ravenswood Elementary SD, Kansas City Schools, Dr. Carla Rolland, Las Lomitas Elementary SD, Dr. Luther Seabrook, Ravenswood Elementary SD, Dr. Charles Townsel, Del Paso Heights Elementary SD and Dorothy Ingram, California's first Black Superintendent of Schools in the Mill School District in San Bernardino.

More to come in the follow- ing weekend...

Dr. Rex Fortune presents award to Ted Kimbrough, now lands at Chicago Public Schools as Dr. Martin Forzwirth looks on.

Dr. Charles Max Knight and Dr. Wilson Riles.

Dr. Elizbeth Nash presented to Lavonia Steele.

General Davis presents to Dr. George McKenna.

Alan Davis presents to retired Superintendent, Dr. Wilson Riles.

Sergeant and Hardy Brown.

McKinley Nash and Mr. Wilson Brown.
CTM Productions To Present Plant My Feet On

CTM Productions will present J. Smalls’s "Plant My Feet on Higher Ground," a heartfelt poetic drama on Friday, December 17th, 4:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Ministry, Community Church & Theatre, 16779 Arrow Blvd., Fontana, CA.

"Plant My Feet on Higher Ground," a heartfelt poetic drama on Friday, December 15th, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 16th, 11:00 a.m. through Sunday, December 17th, 4:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Ministry, Community Church & Theatre, 16779 Arrow Blvd., Fontana, CA.

Tickets are $12.50 in advance, $15 at the door, and $10 for seniors. For ticket information call (909) 356-1015 or (909) 945-5764.

Emotions That Distort The Image Of God

By Mary Anderson

When looking at a distorted and broken image of God, what questions do I ask? How about - Lord let me know you? God is not the Heavenly Father that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child. No good thing, that He the Heavenly Father will withhold from His child.

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Valley Fellowship To Hold Christmas Variety Extravaganza

The Chancel Choir of the 16th Street Seventh Day Adventist Church will give its second annual rendition of The Messiah, on Saturday, December 25, 1993 at 11:00 a.m. The performance will take place at the Church, 1601 W. Street in San Bernardino. There is no admission charge, but a fixed offering will be lifted. All are welcome.

Further information may be obtained by calling (909) 884-0384.

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The way they started I said, "Oh my God they are going to blow us off the field," said Falcon Coach Wayne Cochron, about the surprise Cougars' start. "But, these kids really wanted it, and they're a long ways to go for us." Falcon quarterback Darryl Knight's drilled second quarter run led the score at 7-7. But, Noroco's first possession of the third period, Riverside Country's leading receiver, Reggie Williams, broke loose on a 65-yards run to make the score 14-7 and this was the lead the Cougars would hold.

Led by Knight's 118 yards rushing and two touchdowns, the Cougars scored three unanswered touchdowns to knock the Norco falcons.

"I just wanted to spark the crowd and team," said Knight, about his loud reneging effort. "It's all adjustments, and we maintained our own territory and passed crucial steps in when it was necessary."

The Falcons, down 14-7 to the Cougars after the oneyardline after the Huskies had to lead a big, whether on defense or offense. At 5:14 of the fourth quarter, Chris Claiborne scored three touchdowns. "It's all about heart. I feel I have to make those plays."

At 5:54 of the first quarter, Jones and his linemates were the almost ready for prime time Clippers. We'll, at the Arrowhead Pond before an arena record crowd of 18,321, Michael Jordan has new challenges to fuel his flight onward. Can Jordan pack Clippers' house on The Pond. The Little Fellas have game too! Sponsored by The Riverside Park & Recreation, the 1995 CIF Playoffs '95.

The game ended early, it looked as if Norco was on its way towards history. The Cougars caught the Falcon off guard with an inside kick to start the game, and promptly scored to take a 14-7 lead.

Rubidoux down Norco 27-14, Riverside North overcomes Corona Centennial 29-21. Title game set for Friday at Redlands.

By LELAND STEIN III BVN Sports Editor

CORONA/NORCO -- It's down to the final two, and both teams are Ivy League foes. Rubidoux, 11-2, led the Wolf Pack to the championship last year after holding on to beat Corona Centennial 29-21 at Corona High, they find themselves in a California Interscholastic Federation title game -- Division 4, for the first time since 1972, where they lost to Temple City.

Rubidoux (11-2), following an impressive 27-14 come from behind was over long tough Norco (12-1) at Norco High, also find themselves in a title contest for the first time since 1982. "Man, it makes me feel good to see the team go further than any of us expected," said ex-clipper great, later Trojan star, Darryl Knight. "Oh my God they are going to win this game for the first time since 1972."

"Those guys were strong and big," Jones said, "but, I felt confident I could keep my courage, comitment and class. I just set to keep my balance and do my coaches have been drilling me on." Of course, in North's victory over Centennial, Chris Claiborne as he's done all season seems to always be there when the Huskies needed a big play, whether on defense or offense. At 5:14 of the fourth quarter, Chris Claiborne scored three touchdowns. "It's all about heart. I feel I have to make those plays."

As the game unfolded early, it looked as if Norco was on its way towards history. The Cougars caught the Falcon off guard with an inside kick to start the game, and promptly scored to take a 14-7 lead.

"It's a dream come true," said Knight, about his loud reneging effort. "It's all adjustments, and we maintained our own territory and passed crucial steps in when it was necessary."

Back atop the NBA: Michael Jordan and the Bulls

By LELAND STEIN III BVN Sports Editor

ANAHEIM - The 7-10 Clippers are showing signs of being a competitive team that will respect this year. Consider the Clippers were 0-15 at this point last year - their current record, although below .500, is a major improvement.

One of the new Clipper players who has fueled the team's competitive spirit is forward-center Brian Williams, recently added after a Clipper victory: "It's ok to lose to the Clipper now. We have a solid squad that other teams have to come correct to beat."

"I couldn't have picked a better night to make my debut," said Williams, breaking loose on a 66-yard screen late into the fourth quarter.

Led by the inspired play of Williams (24 points, 10 rebounds), guards Tim Hardaway (21 points, 2 assists) and Ron Harper (15 points), the Clippers put up a solid fight, even making the game at 46-61 into the fourth quarter.

The Little Fellas have game too! Sponsored by The Riverside Park & Recreation, the 1995 CIF Playoffs '95.

The game ended early, it looked as if Norco was on its way towards history. The Cougars caught the Falcon off guard with an inside kick to start the game, and promptly scored to take a 14-7 lead.
As you walk through Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, MI, be on the lookout for signs that identify the location of the most intriguing sites. They are the work of African-American Innovators.

1. Grenville Woods Display, 1877

Grenville Woods was an electric engineer and locomotive consultant. He patented many electrical systems and devices which modernized transportation. One of his important inventions was an overshot wheel and pole which extended from the top of a street car. The wheel - known as a "troller" or "trolley" - drew electricity from a power line overhead to run the motor.

2. Andrew Beard Display, 1873

Andrew Beard patented this invention for connecting train cars. The Car Coupling Device was a major boost for transportation and safety for railroad workers. This important device provided a safer system to attach and add take away cars as needed.

3. Garrett Morgan Display, 1923

Garrett Morgan, a Cleveland businessman, is credited with the 1923 invention of the first four-way traffic signal. His original design included a railing as a guide for the blind. The device was printed with STOP and GO and lowered mechanically. Morgan later added colored lights for the visually impaired. Traffic signals such as Morgan's were invented to improve traffic and reduce accidents.

4. Lewis Latimer, Electric Lamp Filament, 1882

Lewis Latimer was an improved method for making electric lamp filaments while working for Cooper Atlantic. Hiram Percy Maxim in 1882. Latimer supported the invention of the Farbacher escaped slavery in Virginia, colored the Chinatown and Light Co. in 1884 as a draftsman and business was the most important device or "gas mask" for use by American troops during World War I.

5. Elizah McCoy, Steam Drayage Lubricator, 1873

Elizah McCoy was one of the most prominent African-American inventors of his day, obtaining 52 patents between 1872 and 1892. He was an engineer and locomotive fireman. He patented the automatic, self-acting, self-energized drier which automatically moved parts on steam engines, especially locomotives. He demanded such high-quality workmanship that he coined the phrase "the real McCoy."
African Heritage Movie Network (AHN), housed at the African Heritage Foundation, is holding an exciting educational event at 12:00 noon at San Dimas Mansion, 1211 East 6th Street, San Dimas, CA 91773. For reservations or more information, call 1-800-639-2833.

Aön To Present Roots: The Gift

The African Heritage Movie Network (AHN), hosted by film legends, Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, plans to present one of America's greatest family sagas, Roots: The Gift, an Aön Movie Theatre Special Prime Time Presentation. The show will air on KTLA, 12/14 at 12:30 as 8:00 p.m. both showings. The Roots saga expands in this day-time drama theme featuring characters Aloe & Hebron, two Prize-winning novel Roots: Roots: The Gift stars Latino actor Carlos Montalban as Kinte, the Mandinka warrior, hoping to someday to return to Africa, and Louis Gossett Jr., who reprises the role of the resourceful slave, Fiddler. Together on Christmas Eve, 1777, Kunta Kinte and Fiddler risk their lives to give other slaves the most precious gift of all: freedom. This story also stars Sean Connery and Avery Brooks as Moyer.

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FACTORY REBATE: -$300.00
YOUR PRICE: 32,950.00
Vin# 880741

'96 Mercury Grand Marquis
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FWY DISC: -$500.00
FACTORY REBATE: -$500.00
YOUR PRICE: 24,675.00
Vin# 606769

'96 Lincoln Towncar Executive
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Salute To Black World War II Veterans
Salute To Black World War II Vets

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

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."

"In Memory Of Those Who Fought So That We Can Live"
Salute To Black Word War II Vets
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 Levenworth, 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. He was born in Levenworth, Kansas in 1921.

He was a Platoon Sergeant in the 93rd Infantry Division at Fort Wachuka, Arizona. He 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 first base 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 Glascio AFB, Montana.

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

Nathaniel Grant

Nathaniel Grant
Salute To Black Word War II of San Bernardino and sent to Fort Wachuka, trained for the World War II effort. During the years he never heard about the 780th Police Battalion news coverage of the war through the years 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 the claim. There was no record of them ever being there. "I was there, we all were and we knew it," said Inghram. He didn't give up the next stop was Washington D.C., surely they would know 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 out ran 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 - Black Voice News

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 vet-
Salute To Black Word War II Vets PageS Thursday, December 7, 1995

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 (invade) 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 Bernice 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 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 year Commemoration the information and items will be there. The history will be here no one will succeed in erasing it.

Tuskegee Airmen Featured

RECENTLY, TUSKEGEE AIRMEN WERE FEATURED AT THE LONG BEACH CARNAVAL - Pictured above (left to right): Oliver Goodall, Louis Young, James Crowder, Andrew Wallace, Samuel Hughes, and L.A. Chapter President - Rusty Burns.
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 reparations payments imposed on it by the Treaty of Versailles. Italy, one of the victors, found itself in a new position of weakness and vulnerability. Japan, also a victor, was dissatisfied with its gains and was dissatisfied with its gains and was determined to expand its influence in the Pacific.

These three nations, along with other countries in Europe and Asia, sought to achieve their goals by force of arms. The result was a global conflict that lasted from 1939 to 1945.

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

African-American 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 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 as they returned home. They expressed concern over the erasure of the important heroic role they played to keep 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 lies White soldiers told the European 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 Clemens, 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," Clemens recalls.

Benton P.K. 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 Corporman 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.

Blakely recounted 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 theatre. The account was glossed over in the newspaper.

All the men said they felt betrayed, Clemens 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.

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 in it. It seems everytime we get close, they move the starting gate," he said. Roberts indicated 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 spiritedness they still agree with all of its faults this is still the best country in the world. Clemens 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
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 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.

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 bomb- ing 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.

Mitchell is concerned about how the Black service men were treated then and now. "The Red Ball Express, hauled gasoline and supplies, they would get through when the Whites couldn't. The Stars and Strips, (a military publication) would report on it but would never give the details," he said.

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
1995 Health Edition

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 or 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 life's endeavors. He 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 engineering 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 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 a 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, 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 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 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 began 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 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 their 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. Chipp 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.