Black and Brown Juveniles Sentenced to Death 3 Times More Than Whites

By Hazel Trice Edney

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Although Black and Brown juveniles represent 21 percent of the 16 to 17 year-old population, they represent more than triple that proportion (66 percent) of all death row inmates sentenced as juveniles.

Just hours before his scheduled execution, Kevin Cooper was granted a temporary stay as the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco agreed to hear a Missouri case — Simmons v. Roper — challenging the death penalty for minors.

The U.S. Supreme Court refused an appeal to overturn the pending execution of a man who was 17 at the time of his crime.

“Why is this?” asked Dayid Elliott, spokesman for the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (NCADP), based in Washington, D.C. Elliott is the executive director of the NCADP.

“The number of 16 and 17-year-old convictions of color in the U.S. total 2.6 million, less than half of the 3.5 million Whites in the same age category. Yet, the percentage of juvenile convictions of color on death row stands at 66 percent while the percentage of White juvenile convictions for murder was 32 percent. Whites represent half — 32 percent — of all death row inmates sentenced as juveniles,” said Elliott.

“It’s because the death penalty preys on Black and Brown people,” Brian Roberts, Executive Director, National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Information Center, based in Washington, D.C., said.

The Black and Brown juveniles on death row currently number 84 percent of all death row inmates and 93 percent of all inmates sentenced as juveniles.

Elliott noted that 16 and 17-year-olds represent 10 percent of the death row population generally of all ages.

“It’s because the death penalty preys on Black and Brown people, and it’s because the death penalty preys on poor people,” said Elliott.

Elliott noted that although 10 percent of the 16 and 17-year-olds sentenced as juveniles are Black and Brown, 32 percent of all inmates sentenced as juveniles are Black and Brown.

Elliott noted, “It’s because the death penalty preys on people of color.”

Elliott asked rhetorically, “If the question of whether 16- and 17-year-olds should receive the death penalty is now worthy of our attention, why did the U.S. Supreme Court back in 1982 grant a stay to a Mississippi juvenile, Lauro Simpson, to challenge the death penalty for minors in a case that was rejected against a man who was 17 at the time of his crime.

“The question of whether 16- and 17-year-olds should receive the death penalty is now worthy of our attention, and it was worthy of the U.S. Supreme Court’s attention 22 years ago,” said Elliott.

For the past but it was a respectable number of people. The weather was beautiful and those attending the event, politicians, organizations, schools and others go by. For the most part many of the people who were in disagreement with the parade’s move were not in town to 17-year-old Kevin Cooper to receive a stay as the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco granted a temporary stay.

Mary Shelton, Raafl Bain, Jason Burris, Tyshan Charles, Madeline Seymour with daughter Charlotte Ellison.

Controversy had swirled through the community as the Foundation moved the parade from the Westside of town to downtown. There was little diversity in the crowd and it was beautiful and those attending the event, politicians, organizations, schools and others go by. For the most part many of the people who were in disagreement with the parade’s move were not in town to 17-year-old Kevin Cooper to receive a stay as the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco granted a temporary stay.
By Hardy Brown

The fast approaching March 2nd election has some tough choices. The San Bernardino School District and the City of San Bernardino have both called special elections to pass bond measures. For those of us who believe in a good education for our children and grandchildren, this is an excellent opportunity to help improve our schools. On Tuesday, March 2nd, please vote Yes on Measure T in San Bernardino and Yes on Measure M in Moreno Valley.

In San Bernardino we will pass not only a $300 million bond for school improvements, but also a $60 million bond for library improvements and a $20 million bond for parks and recreation. This will bring a total of $480 million in new capital improvements to our community. The bond money will be used to improve our schools, libraries, parks, and recreational facilities, providing a better future for our children.

In Moreno Valley, the Measure M bond measure will provide $60 million for school improvements, including repairs and upgrades to school facilities. This will be a major step towards ensuring that our children have access to high-quality education in safe and well-maintained schools.

Both of these bond measures are crucial for the future of our community. They will help us to provide our children with the education they need to succeed in life, and to ensure that our schools are safe and well-maintained. By voting Yes on Measure T in San Bernardino and Yes on Measure M in Moreno Valley, you will be investing in your community's future.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, March 2nd, and make your voice heard. Together, we can ensure a brighter future for our children.
Shades of red, pink and silver will capture your sweetie’s eye

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Pendants, necklaces, ring and more in 14k white or yellow gold.

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The group ended in prayer led by Evangelist J.M. Barret.

Every speaker was more passionate than the one before. "Six jurors said if they knew now they would not have convicted Cooper. Three were .30 caliber. Mr. Ryan was a Marine and had a weapon in the house. How could one person suffer that fate?"

"With passions still running high enough," J.M. Martin said, "even a child can see something is foul." He estimated the new facts that have surfaced and said that the jury's vote is protecting the action of the state.

Cooper v. State

Fifteen activists held a candlelight vigil on the corner of Orange Street and Mission Inn Avenue at 5:30 pm on the eve of Santa Ana winds that whipped tires but could not extinguish candles.

Organizer Carolyn Boyle said that even though the Ninth circuit of the U.S. Appellate Court had ruled in favor of staying Cooper's execution, State Attorney General Bill Lockyer had immediately appealed that decision to the United States Supreme Court which means that the execution could take place before 24 hour period designated by the signed death warrant had expired.

Boyle kept her cell phone ready, awaiting the latest news on the Supreme Court's decision which would determine whether Cooper would live past midnight.

"An execution that was scheduled when the Appellate Court issues that ruling, only if the Supreme Court does," Boyle told the activists, two of whom held a large sign urging motorists and passersby to call Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to stop the execution.

At least one activist criticized Lockyer's decision to appeal the stay, saying that Lockyer should know first hand the problems peculiarly those involving racism that have plagued Indiana Empire's law enforcement agencies for years, after his investigation of the Riverside Police Department that led to a five-year consent decree.

Boyle said that on Feb. 23, there would be a meeting in San Bernardino to discuss a petition to push for a moratorium in California on capital punishment, similar to that instituted by former Illinois governor, George H. Ryan. Several petitions commented on the issue, mostly in support of Cooper's stay. One elderly woman said that she had worked in Chinatown when Cooper escaped. After his capture, the wardens there had been concerned that Cooper would be found responsible for the murders but a representative of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department had told the wardens, "Don't worry. It's not your guy."

Twenty years later, that "guy" is back on the execution table. Cooper has been executed in seven states: Texas, Virginia, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, and South Carolina. Texas alone carried out 13 executions almost twice of the total.

"The Natural Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty reports:

Of the 10 female juveniles executed in the United States since 1976, eight were African-American and one was Asian-American. In each of those cases, the victim was White. Southern states account for 84 percent of all death sentences imposed in juvenile offenders since 1976. Those three states account for 16 of the 52 executions of juvenile offenders that have been carried out since 1976.

The constitutional question the Court will be exploring in the Missouri case is whether the execution of juveniles has evolved into a violation of the Eighth Amendment, which states, "Excessive bail shall not be required; nor excessive fines imposed; nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted."

"This is the court in our era's capital punishment era. This is the one," says Boyle, whose time to test the hair. One Sheriff deputy checked blood spots that linked Cooper to one of the victims.

Marine and had a weapon in the mission inn, said that she had worked in Chino prison when Cooper escaped. After his capture, the wardens there had been concerned that Cooper would be found responsible for the murders but a representative of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department had told the wardens, "Don't worry. It's not your guy."

Cooper v. State

"The U.S. is minority because it continues to execute juveniles. Several anti-juvenile death penalty treaties, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, have been signed by U.S. presidents, but not ratified by the U.S. Senate. The U.S. P. resolution, signed by Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, prohibits the use of the death penalty against juveniles. Every nation in the world ratified that except the U.S. and Israel. Only four other countries - Iraq, Iran, Bangladesh, and Saudi Arabia - allow the execution of juveniles.

Over the past 30 years, Pakistan, China, Yemen, and Zimbabwe have abolished the death penalty for juveniles.

Many other countries have recently outlawed capital punishment, including Saudi Arabia and Nigeria.

"Abolition International began a global campaign last month to abolish the death penalty for juvenile offenders, calling it "a barbaric" practice that is not consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child."

"Despite this, anti-death penalty groups have been energized by the Supreme Court's decision to hear an appeal of a Missouri Supreme Court ruling. The defendant, Christopher Simmons, now 23, was 17 when he murdered a woman who reorganized when he said a 15-year-old companion explained his actions. The Missouri Supreme Court ruled 5-2 to overturn his death sentence because of his age, noting that the executions of juveniles have become so rare that they constitute cruel and unusual punishment, a violation of the Eighth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

"Individuals under the age of 18 cannot vote, serve in the military, without their parents' permission, cannot purchase liquor, and in the state of Louisiana, they cannot even receive education unless they are one being put to death," says William F. Schaefer, executive director of Amnesty International USA. "So many children are at risk of being executed unless they are found innocent of murder."

"Juvenile society traditionally does not kill the young because the general belief is that they may not know the difference between right and wrong. In 1980, the Supreme Court ruled it lawful to execute juveniles under the age of 18. In 1989, the court deleted its earlier decision, but left open the possibility of youthful defendants learning that death starts up sooner."

Judge J.B. Martin led the prayer led by Evangelist J.B. Martin.

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Bibbs Two-Day Exhibition to be Held in Los Angeles

Charles Bibbs is an accomplished fine artist, entrepreneur and philanthropist who was born and raised in Harbor City, CA and currently resides in Riverside. Bibbs' artwork reflects African, African American and Native American cultural themes making powerful cross-cultural statements. His renderings convey a deep sense of spirituality, majesty, dignity, strength and grace. Bibbs has always believed that "we are the keepers of our culture," and as such, has spent much of his time working towards developing a cohesive, energized African American community. Bibbs is also founder of "Art on Tour," a national traveling art exhibition.

Meet the artist on Saturday, February 14, 2004, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The exhibition will end on Sunday, February 15, 2004. The gallery was planned and organized by Picture It Gallery owner Oliver Talbert in conjunction with Fox Hills Mall, a Westfield's Shoppingtown property.

...and Sale of the Works of Acclaimed Artist Charles A. Bibbs


catholic and philanthropic woman who was born and raised in Los Angeles, is the founder of Art on Tour, a national traveling art exhibition. Meet the artist on Saturday, February 14, 2004, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The exhibition will end on Sunday, February 15, 2004. The gallery was planned and organized by Picture It Gallery owner Oliver Talbert in conjunction with Fox Hills Mall, a Westfield's Shoppingtown property.

Black Women Under-Treated for Heart Disease

Dear Dr. Levister: Do Black women really have to worry about heart disease? M. J.

Dear M. J.: Black women are at an especially high risk for heart disease. Black women with heart disease are at higher risk for heart attack or death from heart disease, but they are being seriously under-treated compared with White women.

Part of the reason is that Black women tend to have more severe heart disease. They are also less likely to be diagnosed early or treated appropriately. Publisher of a new study, Dr. Ashish Jha, a cardiologist from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Black women are less likely to receive aspirin therapy or other cardiac treatments than White women. In addition, they are less likely to be treated for other conditions that could contribute to worse outcomes. Dr. Jha wrote in the journal Circulation, "This study confirms what we know." Noting that studies have found similar findings among Black men, "This is a troubling interpretation that can't be ignored -- race does play a role in healthcare delivery."

Jha and his colleagues studied 2,699 women with heart disease who enrolled in the Heart and Estrogen/Progestin Replacement Study. Among these women, 218 were Black. The women were followed for an average of four years. Jha says, "Women in general and their physicians underestimate the risk of heart disease in women." There is still the stereotype that heart disease is a man's disease.

The study reveals that treat- ment for all women with heart disease is mediocre. Jha argues that "Black women who have an income, level of education and type of insurance are not being treated as aggressively as they should be." Nationally, Black women have a 30 to 40 percent greater risk of dying from heart disease compared with White women. "This is something that is not well appreciated by patients or doctors," Jha notes.

The fact that these women were all part of a clinical trial and were still under-treated highlights the gap in treatment between White and Black women and between women and men.

The American Heart Association (AHA) is responding to the study and more than 22 other studies, last week issued new guidelines for treating heart disease in women. The new guidelines call for aggressive use of drugs to lower cholesterol and blood pressure in high risk women. The AHA also wants patients and doctors to become more focused on preventing heart disease - the number one killer of all men.

Your best hedge against heart disease is to talk to your doctor about your heart health - even if you're not having any symp- toms. Protect your heart, don't smoke. Give your diet a makeover. Exercise regularly. If you're overweight, (77.5 percent of Black women are overweight and 47.9 percent are obese), shed those unhealthy pounds. And keep your blood pressure down.

For additional information about African American Health visit the African American Heart Network at www.aahn.org

Booker T. Washington

Booker T. Washington recalled his childhood in his biography, Up From Slavery. As a young man, he attended school in Franklin County, Virginia. But not as a student. His role was to carry books for a daughter of James Burroughs, owner of the tobacco farm at which he was enslaved with his family.

After the Emancipation Proclamation, when living in West Virginia, the young boy took a job in a salt mine so he could attend school later in the day. With encouragement at age 16, Washington walked much of the 500 miles back to Virginia to enroll in a new school for Black students, the Hampton Institute.

Washington first visited inland Southern California in 1903 to deliver a keynote address in Ontario and Claremont. In 1914 he visited Riverside as a guest of Frank Miller, the proprietor of the Mission Inn, with whom he developed a strong friendship. But his visit to Riverside and the Mission Inn has never been memorialized.

That will soon change.

The Black Voice News and The Black Voice Foundation, Inc., are spearheading a commemoration of his visit.

The National Park Services Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program will convene a four-day conference here in April. During that conference, the historic estate of Booker T. Washington's home will be erected in a prominent spot at the Historic Mission Inn. Mr. Duane Roberts, "The Keeper of the Inn," who has graciously set aside an area for this piece and Mr. Bernard Edmonds, a local artist, has been commissioned to create the bust.

The bust will soon change.

The Black Voice News

The PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Please call 310-655-8500 or 868-5020 and make a donation. You may also send your contribution to:

The Black Voice Foundation

P.O. Box 103

Riverside, California 92503

Any proceeds raised in excess of the amount needed for the project will benefit the Black Voice Foundation's programs in media training.

The Black Voice News

The PRESS-ENTERPRISE
Valentine's Day Cruise

Gospel Showboat, Inc. will set sail on a 4-hour harbor cruise for this special event from Newport Beach for a Valentine's Day celebration of gospel entertainment and food. The ship sets sail at 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Toure Roberts Leads Congregation to the 'Tabernacle of Victory'

Saints United Senior Pastor Leads through Stories of Personal Triumph

At an early age, Toure Roberts knew he was destined to be a soldier in God's army. That destiny was tested however through a series of events that included a 16-year-old Toure being shot, clinging to life and consummated in the ordaining of a powerful young minister. Known simply to his followers as 'Prayer', "I believe my childhood experiences growing up in Watts and South Central Los Angeles in each moment want my pulpits to understand that I am also human and will have made human mistakes. It is through these messages that I hope to lead the next generation out of the despair and hopelessness that surrounds them today."

Saints United Pastor, Rev. Toure Roberts, of Saints United Church in Los Angeles, has been charged by the church he founded in September 2002 after serving as an associate minister at Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles. He was also officially ordained at Ebenezer under the leadership of Dr. Solomon L. Drake.

Under his leadership, Saints United has experienced steady growth in membership, contributed in part to Roberts magnetic personality that draws the listener into the ancient stories of biblical past, while

relating them to timely issues of today. Many might say that at the tender age of 31, Roberts is a soldier in God's army, gifted with an uncanny ability to translate scriptures of the Bible with the ease and insightful wisdom of ministers twice his age. He contributes this ability to his real life experiences.

As a result of the many challenges I faced growing up, I have a plethora of lessons learned that I am able to share," said Roberts. "I've experienced God's hand of favor in spite of the obstacles and I want you to share that in my ministry.

Roberts is quick to praise God for his incredible and believable messages of faith, even in the most difficult moments. He is fast rising up to be an example to others that no matter what the situation, God is able to move and guide us towards His will.

Every Wednesday, starting at 7:00 p.m. Saints United Church holds a bible study known as the "Gym", where one can get "spiritually fit for a victorious living." Church services are held Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the appropriately titled "tabernacle of victory.

Roberts holds a degree in Christian Counseling from Trinity College and is currently pursuing his Master's in Theology. He is also the founder of Saints United Ministries and serves as Chaplain for Success for inner city youth. He is a devoted husband and father to his wife Lori and their three children.

Saints United Church is an inter-denominational community church, led by Senior Pastor Toure Roberts, whose mission is to reach God's Christ in demonstration of love, liberate God's people through knowledge and bring about a sense of unity in the ethically diverse Body of Christ. For more information, please visit our website at www.saintsunited.org.
As the parade traveled down "E" Street, the heart of town, many merchants heard the ringing of cash registers. A wrestling match and a drill competition were held at Arrowhead Stadium completing the day. The crowd was pleased to see Grand Marshal actor John Amos, and Division Marshals, Judge Katrina West, actress Shondrella Avery, and Tennis Coach Charles Mosley as they waved to the crowd.

That evening the Black History Ball was well attended with close to 200 people who enjoyed the outstanding music of Ms. Charlie Jene. Outstanding students were given scholarships for essays and grade point averages. They were: Ashley J. Bain, and Jason Burris from Cajon HS; Tyshan Larry, Nancy Nicki and Nicholas Walker from San Gorgonio High School; Raafi Bell from Arroyo Valley High School. Karissa Allen received the Clyde and Virginia Harding Scholarship.

The queen and her court are: Briegette Williams, First Runner-up Natoya Jenkins, and Second Runner-up Radiance Davis. This year the Senior King and Queen also had a Princess. Charles and Madeleine Seymour were named to reign however, because of religious reasons Charlotte Ellison, their daughter, had to stand in for her mother during Saturday's festivities.

HELP SUPPORT THE MORENO VALLEY TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT!

Creating a municipal utility is a serious undertaking that places the financial future of our city at considerable risk! Our city has already allocated $700,000 from the General Fund to get its utility scheme started, and we are concerned that the money drain won't stop there.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY!

Please join the nearly 850 members of Moreno Valley Residents for Responsible Utility Service. To make certain our community is not at risk, we have begun circulating a petition to place the Moreno Valley Taxpayer Protection Act on the November 2 ballot.

The Taxpayer Protection Initiative will:

• Help protect taxpayers and the city's financial future
• Prevent the city from diverting funds needed for police, fire, paramedics, and parks to the new utility
• Ensure that the municipal utility is financially self-supporting and maintains adequate power resources
• After 5 years, require voter approval to determine how the city spends any potential utility revenue surplus

Please get involved now by supporting this effort!

We're working to protect all Moreno Valley taxpayers.

So, when you see a signature-gatherer at your door or where you shop, please stop and sign the petition. There's no such thing at all for you.

If you are interested in helping to circulate the petition in your neighborhood please call us at (909) 890-4362.

Marcia Amino, Dr. Arthur Murray
Bermudez Burns
Committee Co-Chairpersons

Pasadena News
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Thursday, February 12, 2004

San Bernardino City beat

San Bernardino City beat

Source: debates

Judge Katrina West

Source: debates

Nicholas Walker from San Gorgonio High School, Raafi Bell from Arroyo Valley High School, Karissa Allen received the Clyde and Virginia Harding Scholarship.
THE ABCs OF BUYING LUXURY WATCHES

By Corey A. Washington

Tech Talk

While a watch’s main function is to tell time, more and more of today’s timepieces offer extra benefits—some serve as two-way radios, while others measure your body temperature, or even monitor your position on earth using GPS. But while watches as a whole have increased in their utility, some go beyond the trendy bells and whistles and offer something more—timeliness that is built for life.

Better known as luxury watches, here are a few things you’ll want to know before running off to make the big purchase.

Automatic versus Quartz

Lesson number one is understanding what makes these things tick—literally. When shopping for a luxury watch, it is important to know the difference between an automatic watch (without batteries) and a quartz watch (with batteries). The automatic watch functions as a result of the physical movement of the wearer’s wrist. Thus, if an automatic watch is worn and stationary for a prolonged period of time, the watch will stop ticking. A simple shake of the watch will put time back in motion.

A quartz watch works off of battery power. Generally, automatic watches are much more expensive than quartz watches. The precise engineering is required to produce mechanical functionality. Another statistic: one out of ten women’s watches are quartz watches because women are generally less interested in the automatic movement of the watch and are more interested in the style.

Caliber Automatic versus Standard Automatic

To better understand a watch’s movement, it is helpful to compare this function to the engine of a car. As a Porsche’s engine differs from a Buick’s, a watch’s movement can vary significantly as well. A watch’s movement is measured by calibers—the higher the caliber, the better the movement. This means that, although automatic movements function without batteries, after a certain time period, the watch will be slightly off time. A high-caliber member will generate greater precision. For example, after 30 days of wearing a standard automatic, with a low caliber, the time will be off by approximately 12 minutes, while a caliber 36 (high caliber) movements will only be off by 3 minutes. If the watch is placed on a shelf and not being worn, a standard automatic will last approximately 36 days until it keeps ticking while a caliber 36 movement will run for 50 days. Naturally, the higher the caliber number, the more expensive the watch will be.

So, when picking the right watch for you, take into account your personal needs. There are several factors that come into play when considering the investment in a luxury watch. There are just some first steps that will get you started on your way. If you are interested in more information on the Link Tiger Woods Limited Edition, visit TAG Heuer’s Web site at www.tagheuer.com.
Celebrating 32 Years of Serving the Community

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, February 12, 2004

Last Chance to See Varekai: Final 6 Additional Shows on Sale

$54.00 to $72.00 on weekdays only (Tuesday to Thursday, and Friday at 8:00 p.m.).

Cirque du Soleil now offers the Tapis Rouge™ VIP Experience which includes one of the best seats in the house, entertainment, a special gift and access to the exclusive Tapis Rouge suite one hour prior to show time.

The Tapis Rouge VIP Experience is available for $190.00 for adults and $135.00 for children ages 2-12. For additional information, visit cirquedusoleil.com or call 1-800-678-5440.

Cirque du Soleil announced that six additional and final performances from March 4 to 7 inclusive will be added to its Orange County engagement of Varekai. This new Cirque du Soleil touring production is currently playing under the blue-and-yellow Grand Chapiteau, located at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center in Costa Mesa until March 7.

The general public on sale for the additional performances began February 8th. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Cirque du Soleil box office located in front of the Grand Chapiteau or online at cirquedusoleil.com or by calling the Admission network at 1-800-678-5440.

The Show

Deep within a forest, at the summit of a volcano, exists an extraordinary world - a world where something else is possible. A world called Varekai.

The sky lets go a solitary young man, and the story of Varekai begins. Parachuted into the shadows of a magical forest, a kaleidoscopic world imbued with fantastical creatures, a young man takes flight in an adventure both absurd and extraordinary. On the day at the edge of time, in this place of pure and undiluted possibility, begins an inspired incantation to a life rediscovered and to a newly found wonder in the mysteries of the world and the mind.

The word Varekai means "wherever" in the Romany language of the gypsies - the universal wanderers. Written and directed by Dominic Champagne, this production pays homage to the nomadic soul, to the spirit and art of the circus tradition, and to those who quest with infinite passion along the path that leads to Varekai.

This is the last chance for residents of Orange County, Los Angeles County and San Bernardino/Riverside Counties to see Varekai. The production will be moving further south to San Diego where it opens on March 18 at the Qualcomm Stadium.

Tickets for Varekai range from $60 to $80.00 for adults and $42.00 to $56.00 for children. For students age 13 to 17 years and senior citizens age 65 plus, prices are from $40.00 to $62.00 for adults and $28.00 to $40.00 for children.
FEBRUARY

Feb. 14. 6:00 p.m., Gospel Shower, Inc. Valentine's Day cruise from Newport Beach. Features dinner, entertainment and a champagne toast. For more information or to purchase tickets contact (909) 356-6437.

Feb. 15th-5th Monday Moreno Valley's 18th Annual Black Expo and 3rd Annual Black History Parade. Keynote Speaker will be RC Anderson, Inventor, with a vision, live bands, food booths, contests, games, cultural displays, speakers, booksigning and workshops at Moreno Valley Community Park (corner of Frederick & Cowan). Moreno Valley, CA. For more information call (909) 722-2997.

Feb. 17- 7:00a- 8:00a, The Group Meeting. The price of a cup of coffee you can be a part of discussions and anions in issues affecting Riverside’s African-American community. Location: 3324 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA (across from Sevilli’s). Contact Jennifer Vaughn-Biggs. Chair: 909-702-7730.

Feb. 20. 8:00p The Breeze will be performing at Twin Club, 10134 Fordham Blvd, Rancho Cucamonga, CA. For more information call (909) 967-9322.

Feb. 21. 25th Annual Riverside Black History Month Parade & Expo. For more information visit www.blackhistorymonth.org or contact Tony Bokitin at (909) 370-2805.

Feb. 21. 1:00p-3:00p 62nd Assembly District Candidate Forum with Walter Hawkins, Candidate for the 62nd Assembly District at Foothill Library, 555 West Sixth St, in San Bernardino. For more information call Carl Dameron at (909) 534-9490.

Feb. 24. "A Journey through Time": Black History Month Program at Chaffey Community College Special Appearance: Gina Green, Gospel Recording Artist. A variety of entertainment will be provided. For more information call bgemc-9@cdcnet.net.

Feb. 24. Inland Empire African American Chamber of Commerce Roundtable will be held at Maggie’s House of Chicken & Waffles, 2383 N. Serrano Avenue, San Bernardino. For more information call (909) 620-8217.

Feb. 28, 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m., 37th Annual Black History Parade and Festival at the Hilton Ontario Airport, 700 North Haven Avenue, Ontario, CA. Tel: (909) 548-6198. There will be no opportunity to shop with vendors.

Feb. 24. "H & L has my car running like the energizer battery; it just keeps going and going and going 400,000 miles later!" - Marion Black, V eneto Company, Rialto, CA. For more information call (909) 208-3-828 your chance to win the Grand Prize of $10,000.00. For more details visit www.oplitc.com/links/m_bill_p.html

March 20. 6:00 p.m., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Riverside and San Bernardino Alumni Chapters will host a Black and White Ball at March Air Reserve Base. For more information contact (909) 208-3282 or (132) 387-2500.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 19th- 10th Annual Black History Parade and Festival. For more information contact (909) 928-3-3000.

OCTOBER

Oct. 28-31st Annual Black History Month Parade & Expo. For more information visit www.blackhistorymonth.org or contact Tony Bokitin at (909) 370-2805.
In celebration of Black History Month, Southern California Edison (SCE) hosted "Connecting the Evolution of Electricity to Black History" at its Customer Technology Applications Center (CTAC). Black-owned businesses and community- and faith-based organizations from the Southland joined SCE in recognizing the contributions that African Americans have made to modern technology, and mechanical devices; Frederick M. Jones, who patented more than 60 inventions, including the first refrigeration for long-haul trucks; and Benjamin L. Henry, nicknamed "The Lady Edison," who patented 49 inventions, including a vacuum ice cream freezer.

Former Speaker of the Assembly Herb Wesson gave the keynote address. Hundreds of customers and employees attended the event, along with SCE CEO Al Fohrer and SCE President Bob Foster. Several African American executives from SCE also attended. Attendees toured CTAC, a 44,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility with seven technology centers.

"This event is Edison's way of celebrating Black History Month, connecting to its African American business customers, and honoring its African American employees," said Board.

Colonel Roberts' service record is a credit to the country and the community.

In the spirit of Black History, Wells Fargo honors Colonel George "Spanky" Roberts. His impressive military career began as a Tuskegee Airman and he was one of the first African American pilots to fly in the U.S. Army Air Corps. During WWII, Colonel Roberts fought in North Africa and Italy. He flew over 100 combat missions and commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron. After his distinguished military career, he continued to serve his community as a Wells Fargo credit officer. Wells Fargo salutes Colonel Roberts' commitment to helping people reach the next stage of success.

Wells Fargo honors Black History.
Elites social & Charity club Elects New President

The Elites Social and Charity club announced the appointment of Hazel Patterson as their President for the 2003 to 2005 fiscal years. Patterson has been a member of the organization for two years and has served as co-chairman of their annual Christmas Gala and as the club secretary.

Patterson is married to Rev. Richard Patterson, Sr. and resides in San Bernardino. They have three adult children, a step daughter and grandchildren.

Patterson is the Customer Service Manager for Riverside Public Utilities, and is very active in the Riverside community. She is a member of the YWCA Board of Directors, in the Riverside East Rotary Club, a member of the St. Simeon Sioned of the Armenian Church, and is a member of the National Council of Negro Women, and San Gabriel Valley Section.

As the newly elected president of the Elites, her goal is to work side by side with the members to strengthen the organization and expand the scholarship program. She also hopes to unite the members in an effort to renew and expand the club’s affiliate memberships in other organizations throughout the Riverside area, which will in turn increase the Elites ability to carry out their mission, to meet the educational and social needs of women, youth, and their families.

The Riverside Elites, Inc. is one of the oldest social and charity clubs in Riverside and its members are a group of very talented and hard-working women.

Visit our Elites History Parade booth at the The Elites are celebrating for new contact the members of the Elites. Our membership chairperson, Anna Van applications at their Duval at (909) 275-5022, or you may need to carry out the club’s affiliate memberships in other organizations throughout the Riverside area, which will in turn increase the Elites ability to carry out their mission, to meet the educational and social needs of women, youth, and their families.

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### The Lincoln Premier Experience

#### 2004 Lincoln LS V6
- **MSRP**: $36,895
- **Factory Rebate**: $3,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $1,412
- **Net Cost To You**: $31,423
- **VIN**: 4Y605435
- **On Approved Credit**
- **Limited term financing at $16.67 per $1,000 financed to qualified buyers on approved tier 0, 1 credit through Ford Motor Credit.

#### 2004 Lincoln Navigator
- **MSRP**: $41,080
- **Factory Rebate**: $3,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $2,957
- **Net Cost To You**: $34,823
- **VIN**: 4Y604418
- **On Approved Credit**
- **Limited term financing at $16.67 per $1,000 financed to qualified buyers on approved tier 0, 1 credit through Ford Motor Credit.

#### 2004 Lincoln Towncar Signature
- **MSRP**: $41,815
- **Factory Rebate**: $4,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $2,874
- **Net Cost To You**: $34,941
- **VIN**: 4Y605435
- **On Approved Credit**
- **Limited term financing at $16.67 per $1,000 financed to qualified buyers on approved tier 0, 1 credit through Ford Motor Credit.

#### All New 2004 Lincoln Aviator
- **MSRP**: $40,510
- **Factory Rebate**: $3,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $2,682
- **Net Cost To You**: $34,828
- **VIN**: 4ZJ07269
- **On Approved Credit**
- **Limited term financing at $16.67 per $1,000 financed to qualified buyers on approved tier 0, 1 credit through Ford Motor Credit.

### Mercury Live life in your own lane

#### 2004 Mercury Sable GS
- **MSRP**: $21,595
- **Factory Rebate**: $3,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $1,438
- **Net Cost To You**: $17,157
- **0% APR**

#### 2004 Grand Marquis LS
- **MSRP**: $29,745
- **Factory Rebate**: $3,000
- **Free Way Discount**: $2,094
- **Net Cost To You**: $24,651
- **0% APR**

### Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles

#### Arrowhead Credit Union
- Member Dealer Direct Program

### Parts Dept. Special
- **10% OFF**
- **Any Accessory Purchase**
- **With Coupon**
- **Excludes sale items, cannot be combined with any other offer. Exp. 2-28-04**

### February Service Special
- **10% OFF**
- **All Metric Mile Services in February**
- **Applies to Lincoln & Mercury Vehicles Only.**
- **Free Wheel Balance with Any Tire Purchased at Free Way During The Month of February**