By Chris Levine

It's what I call the full circle moment. L豆y, Jr., the founding father of the Black Voice News, sits across from me during his weekly farmers market in west San Bernardino. The white-haired one is full of zest and chutzpah, much like his activist days at UC Riverside.

Back in the early '70s, long before his vision to bring fresh produce to the city's underserved community, Lilly had another vision. "I wanted Black people to have their own newspaper. As naive as that may sound, I believed we had the right to plead our own cause."

When Mr. Lilly, then the president of UCR's Black Student Union, grabbed a handful of flyers, Malcolm X speeches, newspapers and other publications during a Pan-African conference in Santa Barbara, little did he know he was about to spark a revolution and birth the venerable voice for the voiceless: The Black Voice News.

"I read Nommo, the newspaper published by Black students at UCLA, and my first thought was, why can't we have that at UCR?"

Lilly, who grew up in West Virginia reading trailblazing Black newspapers like the Pittsburgh Courier and the New York Amsterdam News, with three BSU students took his ambitious if not naive proposal to the editor of The Highlander, UCR's student newspaper.

"This was at the height of Black student activism. We wanted a platform for social justice and Black pride. We asked the Highlander to give us a page—a Black page. Eventually Latinos, Asians, gay and lesbian students would have a page."

What Lilly and his classmates got was a polite no thanks and $1,000.

"They didn't want a Black page in the Highlander. They didn't have Black people writing for them. They weren't interested in reporting about our community. Essentially they said here's a thousand dollars—go create your own newspaper."

Lilly and his BSU members did just that but with a lot of help from road-tested local activists like M. Jackie Simpson, Gwen Streeter, Luther Goodenfield rep for Congressman George Brown, and Riverside's first Black publisher Reggie Strickland among others.

"A thousand dollars in those days was a nice chunk of change for a fledgling Black student organization on a UC campus so we paid Reggie a visit to see how much we could get for that money. He said this is what you're up against, he laid it all out from..."
The Black Voice News
July 31, 2008
Page A-2

Over the course of days and months the Black Voice News has become a cultural and historical touchstone for the Black community. The Black Voice News has been there to capture the essence of the times and to provide a voice for the voiceless.

"Our goal is to provide a voice for the voiceless," said Bernard Lilly, the publisher of the Black Voice News. "We believe that it is the responsibility of the Black media to speak truth to power and to give voice to the voiceless."

In past issues, the Black Voice News has covered a wide range of topics, from the civil rights movement to recent political events. The newspaper has been praised for its insightful reporting and its commitment to providing a voice for the marginalized.

The Black Voice News was founded in 1972 by Mr. Lilly, who saw a need for a newspaper that would provide a platform for the Black community to express its views and concerns. Since then, the newspaper has grown in size and circulation, becoming a respected voice in the Black community.

"We are proud to say that we have a loyal readership," said Mr. Lilly. "Our goal is to continue to provide a voice for the voiceless and to bring about positive change in our community."

The Black Voice News has been recognized for its outstanding reporting and its commitment to providing a voice for the voiceless. The newspaper has been awarded numerous awards, including the prestigious National Newspaper Publishers Association Award for Excellence in Journalism.

In conclusion, the Black Voice News has been a powerful voice for the Black community. Its commitment to providing a voice for the voiceless and its commitment to excellence in journalism make it an important part of the Black community's cultural and historical legacy.

The Black Voice News is a voice for the voiceless.
CLOCKWISE: BLACK VOICE NEWS PUBLISHER: Cheryl Brown interviews Tuskegee Airman General Franklin at Norton AFB. • COMMUNITY LEADER: Georgia Morris, educator, explains "Bakuba Ndop" artifacts in Treasures of African Art book to members of Edison's Black History Committee: Linda Lee, Robby Hicks, Georgia Morris, Belinda Woods, Carolyn Williamson. • ARROWHEAD ELKS IN SAN BERNARDINO: Ricky Mims, Errol Alexander, Jacquie Mayfield, Al Wilson, Note Brinkley. • RIVERSIDE BLACK HISTORY PARADE ON UNIVERSITY AVENUE: Jim Cannon, Alex Tartes, Lee Wagner, Warren Burns. • WOMAN 2 WOMAN OPENS: Dr. Irene Donnelly, Dr. Betty Stewart. • BLACK OWNED MEDICAL OFFICE OPENING: Dr George Small cuts ribbon to new medical office in Rialto.

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Their world is as fragile as they are. Global warming threatens not only the earth but the future of its most precious inhabitants: our children. If we join together we can make a big difference in the fight against this threat. Last year, Californians replaced over six million regular lights with CFLs. Let’s do more. If all of us replace five more regular light bulbs with energy-efficient ones we can minimize the emissions that cause global warming. It’s critical we act NOW! Our children are not our future – we are their future. For information on rebates and energy-efficient products visit FlexYourPower.org. The fight against global warming has just begun.

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The Black Voice News turned 36-years-old this year and Cheryl and I have enjoyed the position of publishers for the past 26 years. I must say, when we first took over as owners we wanted a business that would provide income for the family and employable skills for the children. We got so much more. Neither the influence of the paper, community responsibility that comes with publishing, nor the freedom of the press was recognized by either of us at that time. However, that soon changed as we reported some hot stories, read the paper, community responsibility and the influence of the Black newspapers.

As a result of those stories, we took over as owners we wanted a business that would provide income for the family and employable skills for the children. Now we have other delivering the papers and we miss the close personal contact we shared with our delivering partners, the barbers, beauty salons, the barbecue cafes and churches.

Cheryl enjoys and still covers stories and takes pictures and is dubbed the "lady with the camera". She became so active that people would have events and not even notify her but say Cheryl will be here to take pictures and share them with us. People would call early morning, noon, and night, and still do to give their stories.

One cannot forget our early loyal advertisers from the Black businesses in our community and the churches that still support us in a mighty way. Without them our paper would be different and the larger society would not have been informed. If we had not been informed, we would have had to decide. We are also proud of our intern journalists and with you just from seeing that many great churches in your publication. They represent a lot of members who are constituents.

The first long term contractual business to advertise with us was Ebony Crest and after that others followed and the event has been Freeview Lincoln.

Thanks to new technology we have changed the way the paper is produced. News stories are now put into a computer, sent to production from anywhere, and pictures are laid out inside the computer and corrected before being emailed to the printer. We now have website capabilities that include video viewing and blogging. This technology has expanded our readership throughout the region, country and the world. We are read in 100 countries every week and recently over 250,000 hits were recorded in one week. At this present year we expect well over 12 million hits this year.

RiverSides Light of the World Church of God in Christ

Riversides Light of the World Church of God in Christ

We are the Light of the World

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Worship Service

Sunday 9:30 AM
Morning Worship • 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening • 6:00 PM

Prayer • Bible Study • 6:00 PM
Mid Week Study • 7:00 PM
Friday Night Prayer • 12:00 NOON

Superintendent Lawrence C. & Olivia Ash

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Highway to Heaven 1760

Rialto Christian Center

232 W. Ninth St.
Rialto, CA 92376
(909) 873-5200

Center of Services

Sundays – Services

10:00 AM – Worship Service
11:00 AM – Sunday School
12:30 PM – Fellowship

Sundays – Marriage

Fourth Sat. 6:30 PM

Rev. O. J. Matthews

Rialto Christian Center

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Good News Community Church

Full Gospel Baptist

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Riverside, CA 92509
(951) 683-2916

Weekly Services

Monday Morning

11:00 AM
Bible Study

Fellowship

12:30 PM

Bethel AME Church

1672 Palm Ave., Highland, CA 92346
(909) 425-2615

Wednesday Study

7:00 PM

Rialto Christian Center

909-934-2916

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(909) 425-2615

Wednesday Study

7:00 PM

Rialto Christian Center

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Summer is here, and Southern California Edison (SCE) encourages customers to save energy, money and the environment.

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The Black Voice News
Established in January of 1973

The Black Voice News is a weekly newspaper published on Tuesdays in St. Louis Publishing Company, P.O. Box 679, Forest Park, Missouri. It is distributed free of charge through the mail and in newsstands. The newspaper is a member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. The Black Voice News is supported by advertising and contribute revenue.

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**Comedy Show To Honor Community Leader Dr. Jerry Louder**

Southside Entertainment is partnering with Eternal Praise Productions, to host a comedy show that will benefit Reverend Dr. Jerry Louder, pastor of New Jerusalem Church in Riverside, who has recently been diagnosed with cancer and has exhausted his insurance benefits, while ongoing medical bills continue to mount with his cancer treatment and rehabilitation. The show will be held at the Grove Community Church in Riverside, CA.

Please come out and support this cause and enjoy a night full of clean family laughter and entertainment provided to you by Rev. Monty Sharpson and the Anointed Oreos, renowned comedians Lamont and Gilbert Esquivel, saxophonist J. Boykin, singer Guent Cunningham and others who are guaranteed to make you laugh, dance, and have a fantastic time.

Proceeds from this event will help to cover Dr. Louder’s ongoing medical insurance costs. This is an event not to be missed. The show is for persons of all ages. Come out and enjoy good-old-fashioned fun with a twist! Tickets are $15 on sale now.

Tickets are $15 in advance, $20 at the door, senior, children and group discounts available. Tickets are available at The Grove Bookstore & Café, Beren Christian Bookstore, New Jerusalem Christian Center, Photos on Sight.

For more information contact Joseph Boykin, jboykin@cox.net, Ph: (951) 275-3805.
American Dream Delayed

By Chris Levister

By every measure the Campbell’s see the perfect home buying cycle: educated, good incomes, conserva-
tive spenders, money in a savings account and two private school children.

But no. Laura and Jonathan Campbell have been turned down for a home loan more than twice they're willing to admit.

"We're just trying to stay positive. Standing in the yard of their rented house Laura a music teacher holds up a hair brush. "It's my therapy, it's a little bit of therapy."

...Some one left the cake out in the rain and I don't think that I can have ice cream too long to make it, and I'll never have that recipe again either.

Since 2006 the Campbell's have been no ticing a shift in their monthly income to fulfill a family mortgage. "We're working on the third generation of homeowners in this family. It's a right of passage," thanks Jonathan.

"This whole homeowners dream is a great dream if you can afford it, if you're not a down payment, if you're not the income or assets to make the monthly payments, particularly when those payments are going to jump."

That was Attorney General Jerry Brown’s freshman reminder last month after he filed an expanded lawsuit against Countrywide Financial. He says the nation’s largest mortgage lender systematically made loans to people it knew couldn’t really pay the terms back.

After years of homeowner growth the Campbell’s both African American families found themselves caught in a catch 22.

"We're bombarded by the bad PR. There's an unfair assumption that all minorities will walk default. If you are a person of color looking for a home loan now, there's a bulls eye on you by every lender," says Laura.

According to consumer buying statistics. Black homeowners went 40 percent during the 80s as more Blacks moved into the nation’s middle and upper class.

Brown’s suit against Countrywide described not only sub-prime loans to the richest homeowners, but also loans made to borrowers with good credit, including individuals adjustable rate mortgages known as ARMs as well as home equity lines of credit.

Angelo Mozilo, the lender’s founder, chairman and chief execu-
tive and his associates "crafted mort-
gage instruments that did great harm to individuals and the communities, and they persisted in expanding those damaging mortgages over a number of years," Brown claimed.

Judy after study shows that minorities are more likely than whites to get sub-prime mortgages, which are high cost loans made to people with poor credit. In his briefs earlier this decade, the sub-prime market was cheered as an oxygen through which historically disenfranchised borrowers could get loans. That frequency never diminished.

So long as home prices rose, the sub-prime market seemed a positive example of how to increase home ownership, but as the housing market weakened, many began to question whether the loans were fairly priced.

In 2007 the Federal Reserve released a study that found 52.7 percent of African Americans get a high-cost home loan when they refinanced in 2000, compared to 37.2 percent of Latinos and just 25.7 percent of whites in the same year.

A similar study by the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, known by its acronym ACORN, found the same patterns even when the income was equal.

According to ACORN, upper income Blacks were 3.3 times and Latinos 3 times, more likely than upper-income whites to have a high-
cost loan when purchasing a home.

I keep hoping one day I’ll do a study where race doesn’t play a part," Laura Wolf, author of the study, "But clearly, there is a race bias.

Crisco dispute such studies saying that it's researchers who could account for the factors that go into pricing a mortgage, they would find that the pricing is based on risk, not race.

Still couples like the Campbell’s are being squeezed by the fallout. They say even with the latest homeowner rescue bill signed by President Bush this week the housing consensus is likely to take precious time.

"We're throwing money away on cutting corners by over promising. "You better shop around... you better, too! You better Shop Around..." she takes a deep breath and breaks into song, "You better Shop Around...you, you, you better..."

Bush Signs Homeowner Rescue

Despite reservations, Bush signed mortgage relief for 4,000,000 strapped homeowners

The Black Voice News

BTV Staff

President Bush reversed himself and signed mortgage relief for 4,000,000 struggling home owners Tuesday as part of an election-year housing plan that also aims to send the bill to the president; the measure, regarded as one of the most significant housing legislation in decades, lets homeowners who cannot afford their payments refinance into more affordable government-backed loans rather than losing their homes. The measure is temporary financial lifeline to troubled mort-
gage companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac — pillars of the home loan market whose woes have sparked irevans fears and tightened controls over the government-sponsored businesses.

What began as a showdown between the White-House and the Democratic-led Congress over how far the government should go in res-
cuing homeowners evolved into a bipartisan effort that could be the last such com-
promise before Bush leaves office in January.

In a rare Saturday session, the Senate voted 72-13 to send bill to the president; the House passed it earlier in the week.
TO PLEAD OUR OWN CAUSE

IN 2002 THE BLACK VOICE NEWS JOINED A LIST OF HISTORIC PUBLICATIONS HIGHLIGHTED IN MILLER BREWING COMPANY'S GALLERY OF GREATS, AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF SIGNIFICANT AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS. THE THEME, "POWER IN THE PRESS: BLACK PUBLISHERS RIGHTING HISTORY" COMMEMORATED THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLACK PRESS OF AMERICA. THE BLACK VOICE NEWS PUBLISHERS HARDY AND CHERYL BROWN JOINED A NUMBER OF LEGENDARY BLACK PRESS ICONS INCLUDING FREDERICK DOUGLASS, IDA B. WELLS BARNETT, JOHN RUSSWURM, SAMUEL CORNISH, CHARLOTTA SPEARS BASS, ROBERT ABBOTT, CARL MURPHY, CORNELIUS SCOTT, WILLIAM SCOTT, JOHN SENGSTACKE, PLUMMER YOUNG, AND ROBERT VANN.

IN THIS SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ISSUE THE BLACK VOICE NEWS WOULD LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE ROOTS OF THE BLACK PRESS, THOSE EARLY VISIONARY PUBLICATIONS THAT RECORD AND DOCUMENTED THE HISTORY OF THE FREE BLACK COMMUNITY, FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE ENSLAVED, ILLUMINATED AND INFLUENCED READERS, AND WERE RELENTLESS CRUSADERS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND FREEDOM. MUCH LIKE THE FIRST BLACK NEWSPAPER THE FREEDOM'S JOURNAL, THESE ACTIVISTS/PUBLISHERS WANTED TO SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES, TO PLEAD THEIR OWN CAUSE, AND FOUND THE PRESS TO BE ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL VEHICLES FOR THAT CRUSADING WORK.

Gallery of Greats

THE BLACK PRESS
Freedom's Journal
Founded 1827

Samuel E. Cornish
John B. Russwurm

"We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by mis-representation of things which concern us dearly. It shall ever be our daily duty to vindicate our brethren, when oppressed, and to lay the cause before the public... From the press and the pulpit we have suffered much by being incorrectly represented. Men... have not hesitated to represent us disadvantageously, without becoming personally acquainted with the true state of things."

Founded on March 16, 1827 as a four-page, four-column standard-sized weekly, Freedom's Journal was the first Black-owned and operated newspaper in the United States, and was established the same year that slavery was abolished in New York State. Began by a group of free Black men in New York City, the paper served to counter racist commentary published in the mainstream press. Samuel E. Cornish and John B. Russwurm served, respectively, as its senior and junior editors.

Freedom's Journal was similar to other anti-slavery reform papers in that its pages consisted of news of current events, anecdotes, and editorials and was used to address contemporary issues such as slavery and "colonization." a concept which was conceived by members of The American Colonization Society, a mostly white pro-emigration organization founded in 1816 to repatriate free Black people to Africa. Initially opposed to colonization efforts, Freedom's Journal denounced slavery and advocated for Black people's political rights, the right to vote, and spoke out against lynching.

Freedom's Journal provided its readers with regional, national, and international news and with news that could serve to both entertain and educate. It sought to improve conditions for the over 300,000 newly freed Black men and women living in the North. The newspaper broadened readers' knowledge of the world by featuring articles on such countries as Haiti and Sierra Leone. As a paper of record, Freedom's Journal published birth, death and wedding announcements. To encourage Black achievement, it featured biographies of renowned Black figures such as Paul Cuffe, a Black Bostonian who owned a trading ship staffed by free Black people, Toussaint L'Ouverture and poet Phyllis Wheatley. The paper also printed school job and housing listings.

At various times the newspaper employed between 14 to 44 agents to collect and renew subscriptions, which cost $3 per year. One of its agents, David Walker from Boston, eventually became the writer of "David Walker's Appeal," which called for slaves to rebel against their masters. Freedom's Journal was soon circulated in 11 states, the District of Columbia, Haiti, Europe, and Canada. It typically advertised cost between 25 to 75 cents.

Russwurm became sole editor of Freedom's Journal following the resignation of Cornish in September 1827, and began to promote the colonization movement. The majority of the newspaper's readers did not support the paper's radical shift in support of colonization, and in March 1829, Freedom's Journal ceased publication. Soon after, Russwurm emigrated to the American Colonization Society of Liberia, and became governor of the Maryland Colony. Cornish returned and attempted to revive the newspaper in May 1829 under the new name "The Rights of All," but the paper folded after less than a year. Freedom's Journal's two-year existence, however, helped spawn other papers. By the start of the Civil War over 40 Black-owned and operated papers had been established throughout the United States.
The California Eagle Founded 1879

When The California Eagle shut down its presses in 1964, it was one of the oldest Black-owned and operated papers in the United States. John James Neimore had established it in Los Angeles as The California Owl in 1879, in case Black settlers' transition to the West. The paper provided them with housing and job information, and other information essential to surviving in a new environment. The paper evolved into one of the leading African American newspapers across the nation, which were used to keep African Americans and other minorities from living or purchasing property in certain neighborhoods. The paper also denounced police brutality, and waged successful battles against discriminatory hiring practices at the Southern Telephone Company, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Boulder Dam Company, the Los Angeles General Hospital, and the Los Angeles Rapid Transit Company. In the 1930s, The Eagle joined forces with such papers as The Chicago Defender; The Pittsburgh Courier, The Afro-American, and The Norfolk Journal and Guide, to support the use of land or housing, and were published in opposition to the Constitution. 'The newspaper was directed towards political and social issues affecting Black people locally and nationally, and at every opportunity it challenged America to uphold the inalienable rights espoused in the Constitution.'

Two of The Eagle's biggest (and earliest) crusades were against racism in the motion picture industry during World War I, and again in World War II. An African American motion picture industry and the Second World War crusades were against racism in the motion picture industry and the War Department. "After World War I, The California Eagle fought racial discrimination and segregation in Los Angeles and the State of California such as "restrictive covenant" practices. "Restrictive covenants were policies or legal guidelines usually embedded (and often hidden) in zoning and real estate regulations which were used to keep new housing tracts and developments racially segregat-
ed. The covenants designated restrictions to the use of land or housing, and were used to keep African Americans and other minorities, from living or purchasing property in certain neighborhoods. The Eagle also denounced police brutality, and waged successful battles against discriminatory hiring practices at the Southern Telephone Company, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Boulder Dam Company, the Los Angeles General Hospital, and the Los Angeles Rapid Transit Company. In the 1930's, The Eagle joined forces with such papers as The Chicago Defender; The Pittsburgh Courier, The Afro-American, and The Norfolk Journal and Guide, to support the use of land or housing, and were published in opposition to the Constitution. 'The newspaper was directed towards political and social issues affecting Black people locally and nationally, and at every opportunity it challenged America to uphold the inalienable rights espoused in the Constitution.'

In 1951, Charlotta Bass sold the paper to Loren Miller, an attorney and former Eagle reporter, and in an issue dated April 26, announced her resignation in her personal column, "On The Sidewalk." In her resignation, she stated "After more than 40 years in which I have tried to serve my people and my country, as a good neighbor, an editor, and as a fighter for Negro liberation, I feel that I must now take time to reign my health, to learn more about what is happening in the world...and to decide how I can be most useful in the years ahead."

Bass devoted her remaining years to politics. In 1952 she became the first Black woman to run for national office as the Progressive Party's Vice Presidential candidate.
The Afro-American, founded in 1892, has been a prominent voice for racial equality and economic advancement for Black Americans for more than a century. In existence since August 13, 1892, John Henry Murphy Sr., a former slave who gained freedom following the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, started the paper when he merged his church publication, The Sunday School Helper, with two other church publications. The Ledger (owned by George F. Bragg of Baltimore's St. James Episcopal Church) and The Afro-American (published by Reverend William M. Alexander, pastor of Baltimore's Sharon Baptist Church). By 1922, Murphy had evolved the newspaper from a one-page weekly church publication into the most widely circulated Black paper along the coastal Atlantic, published by Reverend William M. Alexander, pastor of Baltimore's Sharon Baptist Church) and The Afro-American (published by Reverend William M. Alexander, pastor of Baltimore's Sharon Baptist Church). 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The most important African-American newspaper between 1839-1842 was The Colored American, published from New York City at 9 Spruce Street but circulating in free Black communities up and down the northern seaboard. It was launched in 1836 by Samuel Cornish, Philip Bell, and Charles Bennett Ray. The paper was a weekly, running between four and six pages. Pronouncing its editorial mission as "the moral, social and political elevation of the free colored people; and the peaceful emancipation of the slaves," the Colored American gave prominent coverage to abolitionist activity and to civil rights issues in the north. In the presidential campaign of 1840, it declared in favor of Liberty Party candidate James Birney, though the paper was not a partisan organ.

By 1839, Ray had taken over as the paper's sole owner and editor. Ray was an African-American Massachusetts native who had briefly attended Wesleyan University, worked as a bootmaker in New York City, and been ordained as a minister in 1837. He was a prominent figure in the American Anti-Slavery Society, a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, and a member of New York's Vigilance Committee. He also supported missionary and temperance causes, as well as educational programs within New York's African American community.

Like other antebellum newspapers, the Colored American employed agents in various cities to drum up subscribers. And it used abolitionist organizations to market itself; in 1837 the executive committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society urged its members to support the paper, and at the organization's next annual meeting lists circulated soliciting subscribers. Even so, the paper frequently teetered on the brink of financial collapse. Its primary readership — the northern free Black community — was chronically hard-pressed for cash, though at several crisis points determined fund drives raised critical donations from African-American churches and local abolitionist societies. These efforts, supplemented by occasional cash infusions from prominent White allies, enabled the paper to survive through 1841 (the last issue was published on Christmas day), recording the voice of a small and scattered but vitally active free African-American community.
The Alienated American Founded 1853

A weekly newspaper edited by William Howard Day, Samuel Ringgold Ward, and J.W.C. Pennington, the Alienated American was based in Cleveland, Ohio, in the turbulent 1850s. The paper's objective, according to its editors, "was to aid the educational development of Colored Americans and to assist in enforcing an appreciation of the benefit of trades and to aim at our Social Elevation." Its editors believed that reading good newspapers was an essential part of being a responsible American. They also saw themselves as appealing to readers beyond African Americans, advocating "equal justice before American Law..."

The paper supported integration over segregation and separatism, and declared itself "willing to stand or fall by ... the Constitution of our common country." Its principal editor Day was a graduate of Oberlin College, and the Alienated American functioned as the official newspaper of the Ohio Negro Convention Movement. He also used his newspaper to support the organization of Black veterans of the American Revolution and the War of 1812, in which his father fought and died. Day moved to Canada in the late 1850s and actively supported John Brown's movement for the attack on Harpers Ferry in 1859, printing Brown's constitution by hand in Canada. He was in England raising funds for the fugitive slave settlement in Buxton, Ontario, when Brown was captured.

TO AID THE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF COLORED AMERICANS AND TO ASSIST IN ENFORCING AN APPRECIATION OF THE BENEFIT OF TRADES AND TO AIM AT OUR SOCIAL ELEVATION
The Ram's Horn

Overview of the Newspaper:

The Ram's Horn was a weekly newspaper published and edited by Willis A. Hodges, a free Black born in Virginia. His family moved to New York in the mid-1830s after Nat Turner's rebellion prompted the Virginia legislature to severely limit the liberties of free Blacks, but they kept their family farm in Virginia. Active in school reform in Williamsburg, the Black community in which he settled, he owned a grocery store and attended the Abyssinian Baptist Church. By the 1840s, Hodges functioned as one of the most outspoken advocates for abolition and equal rights in the State. His abolitionist newspaper caught the eye of Frederick Douglass and John Brown, both of whom contributed articles and funds. Brown published his essay entitled "Sambo's Mistakes" in Hodges' paper, castingigate northern Blacks for not doing more to end slavery. Because of such essays as Brown's, the paper reached a peak circulation of 2,500. Hodges also argued in favor of re-settling free Blacks and escaping slaves on farms in up-state New York rather than in cities. After the paper ceased publication, Hodges continued to support abolitionist causes, including Brown. It is not known if Hodges was part of the Harper's Ferry planning, but when Brown was arrested in 1859, Hodges burned their correspondence. The editor may have helped the U.S. army as a scout in Virginia during the Civil War, but the evidence is uncertain. After the war, he was active in Virginia politics during the Reconstruction era and after the Democratic Party regained power in Virginia, he returned to New York in 1876, where he lived until his death in 1890.

A POLITICAL AGENDA - LEFT: Through the pages of the National Reformer, William Whipper used his wealth and influence to preach moral reform. (below) JOHN BROWN was a contributor and founder of The Farmer's Horse. One of Brown's essays castigated northern Blacks for not doing more to end slavery.
Founded in February of 1849 by Samuel Ringgold Ward, a fugitive slave and staunch abolitionist, the Imperial Citizen, was designed to aid in the elevation of the Free Colored People, and to support and urge the doctrines of a Righteous Government. Ward, who knew and admired Frederick Douglass as a fellow fugitive from slavery, considered the Imperial Citizen as somewhat of an auxiliary to Douglass' North Star. In preparation for the Citizen's move from a semi-monthly to a weekly paper in June of 1849, Ward advised his readers that the newspaper must have a minimum of 1500 paid subscribers at one dollar a year, a figure that he soon found too low to support the paper adequately. The usual edition of the paper included exchanges, a few ads, some verse, organization reports, lists of addresses, editorials, and letters to the editor. Ward was among the leading advocates of emigration schemes to Canada and the West Indies, and co-founded, with Mary Ann Shadd, the Provincial Freeman in 1853, a paper devoted to promoting Canada as a refuge for American Blacks in the United States.

**Imperial Citizen** Founded 1849

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**Mirror of Liberty** Founded 1839

The first magazine-type publication edited and owned by Blacks and aimed at Black readers, the Mirror of Liberty was published sporadically in New York City by David Ruggles from 1838 to 1840. Modeled after the Frederick Douglass' newspaper, the Mirror, the Mirror of Liberty was published in New York City, where he ran a store. He actively assisted fugitive slaves and stopped more than once the kidnapping of free Blacks into slavery. Ruggles helped organize the New York Committee of Vigilance, which assisted more than 600 fugitive slaves; and his newspaper functioned as the Committee's official organ. It championed, among other issues, trials by jury for those Blacks accused of being run-away slaves. Ruggles' ill health ended the Mirror's publication in 1840, but he continued his work in numerous contributions to anti-slavery journals and newspapers until his death in 1849.

**Mirror of the Times** Founded 1857

Founded by two African-American businessmen, Mifflin W. Gibbs and James Townsend, the Mirror of the Times, appealed to a small community of African Americans in California as a weekly newspaper. Its first editor was the African-American writer William H. Newby. The only Black newspaper in the Bay Area at the time, it gained national attention with its staff of over 30 corresponding editors and subscription agents. The driving force behind the newspaper was owner Gibbs, a free-born Philadelphian who went to California seeking gold in 1850. A devoted abolitionist, participant in the Underground Railroad, and friend of Frederick Douglass, whom he accompanied on a statewide tour of New York in 1849, Gibbs had little tolerance for the way Blacks were treated in a new, so-called "free state." He used the Mirror to chide fellow Blacks into confronting the restrictive "Black Laws" of California. In 1857, Blacks from all over the nation attended the California Colored Convention in response to the publicity given it by the Mirror. Gibbs made a fortune in the clothing and dry goods trade, real estate speculation, and transportation, both in California and British Columbia, Canada. After the Civil War, he moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he continued to prosper in business and politics into the 1880s.
American newspaper in the nation. Among the most prominent editors of this weekly journal were several AME clergymen: Augustus A. Green (1848-1852); Molliston Madison Clark (1852-1854); and Jabez Pitts Campbell (1854-1858). In one of its most memorable quotes after the Civil War, The Christian Recorder said: "If a million Negroes move north and west in the next twelve-months, it will be one of the greatest things for the Negro since the Emancipation Proclamation." During the Civil War, the paper helped Black soldiers keep in touch with their families by publishing letters and reports on the location of church members in the army. After the Civil War, it published reports from AME clergy in the southern missions and assisted in reuniting Black families torn apart by slavery.

If a million Negroes move north and west in the next twelve-months, it will be one of the greatest things for the Negro since the Emancipation Proclamation.

--The Christian Recorder

Douglass' Monthly Founded 1858

Abolitionist Frederick Douglass brought out a monthly magazine, Douglass Monthly, in 1858, aimed partly at England and at maintaining the support of British supporters-financial and otherwise-for the antislavery crusade in America. During the first years of the Civil War, the Monthly urged the emancipation of the enslaved and the British to break with the Confederacy. This newspaper editorialized against slavery, covered significant events like the raid on Harpers Ferry, and printed significant speeches of the day, including those by Abraham Lincoln. Alongside Douglass' own editorials appeared essays and commentary by leading Black intellectuals. The publication came to an end in 1863 when its financial support dried up.

Frederick Douglass' Paper Founded 1851

Officially started in 1851, Frederick Douglass' Paper became a weekly newspaper combining both the famed North Star and the Liberty Party Paper. Its motto, "Devoted to the Rights of All Mankind, Without Distinction of Color, Class or Crime," helped the paper grow until roughly 1856, when, financially stopped, it separated from the Liberty Party Paper. In 1860, the paper officially ended, and Douglass became editor of The Douglass Monthly, a paper that had occupied his journalistic attention from around 1858 to 1863.

If a million Negroes move north and west in the next twelve-months, it will be one of the greatest things for the Negro since the Emancipation Proclamation.
The Black Voice News Page B-10 Thursday, July 31, 2008

CONGRATULATIONS

To Hardy and Cheryl on 36 years of service to the community

— Alvin and Olia Fayre Stephens

CONGRATULATIONS

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CONGRATULATIONS

On 36 Years of Success

THE RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER
CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE BLACK VOICE NEWS AS THEY HAVE US

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

3443 ORANGE STREET
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INFLUENCE - Frederick Douglass was the most influential leader of his time. In the introduction to his first issue Douglass presented his goal. "The object of The North Star will be to attack slavery in all its forms and aspects—advocate Universal Emancipation; exact the standard of public morality; promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the colored people; and to hasten the day of freedom to our three million enslaved fellow countrymen."

THE most influential Black newspaper published before the Civil War was the North Star, founded and edited by Frederick Douglass on funds raised in England. It took its name from the lodestar that runaway slaves used to guide them in traveling North to freedom. It began as an alternative to White abolitionist papers, principally William Lloyd Garrison's the Liberator, differing with Garrison over the use of political means and even violence to end slavery. Printed weekly and presenting a staunchly antislavery stance, the paper nevertheless featured open dialogue about all aspects of abolition and civil rights for Blacks.

In a pamphlet introducing the paper, Douglass presented his goals: "The object of The North Star will be to attack slavery in all its forms and aspects; advocate Universal Emancipation; exact the standard of public morality; promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the colored people; and to hasten the day of freedom to our three million enslaved fellow countrymen."optimistically, White readers were also attracted to the paper, and its White subscribers outnumbered Blacks almost five to one at its peak. While Douglass billed the North Star as an antislavery journal, it was not anti-White in sentiment. He said that his efforts "resulted from no unworthy distrust or ungrateful want of appreciation of the real, genuine, or ability of the noble band of White laborers." Eventually in 1851, The North Star merged with the Liberty Party Paper, renamed Frederick Douglass Paper, which continued to be published until 1865.

Frederick Douglass was the most prominent Black American in the nation in the 19th century. Born a slave, he taught himself to read and write, organized secret schools for slaves, and escaped from slavery by masquerading as a free Black sailor traveling via train and steamboat from Baltimore in 1838. Thereafter, he made hundreds of speeches for the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, often risking his life. His autobiography, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, published in 1845, sold over 30,000 copies in the United States and Britain in five years. His oratory forced him to flee to Britain, where he remained for almost two years before returning to publish the North Star. Douglass wrote most of the articles and essays in the paper, making it a model of editorial quality. By the mid-1850s, the break with Garrison's "moral assumption" branch of the abolitionist movement was out in the open, and Garrison scathingly attacked Douglass' belief in using politics and perhaps violence to end slavery. Also active in the Underground Railroad, Douglass hid numerous fugitives in his house in Rochester in 1852. His novel, The Heroic Slave, glorified a bloody slave revolt; and his magazine, North Star, was published until 1863.

During the Civil War, Douglass pressured Lincoln to allow Blacks to fight in the Union army, openly supported Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, and worked fervently to recruit Black troops and to press the federal government to end discrimination in the military. After the war, Douglass championed the cause of Black equality and led the passage of the 15th Amendment, breaking with long-time supporters who refused to back the Amendment because it did not include women's suffrage. Over the next 20 years, Douglass spoke out against the increasing violence in the Jim Crow South and the movement to disfranchise Blacks. He also served during Reconstruction as president of the Freedmen's Saving Bank, a federation of charitable lending funds created to assist Blacks in making the economic transition from slavery to freedom. In the post-Reconstruction era, Douglass continued to support the Republican Party and was rewarded with appointment as the U.S. Marshall for the District of Columbia (1877-1881), recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia (1881-1886), and U.S. Marshal for the District of Columbia (1881-1886). When asked shortly before his death in 1895 what advice he would give to a young Black starting out in life, Douglass replied firmly: "Agitate! Agitate! Agitate!"