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### Vol.51 n.09 September 21st 2023

Voice Media Ventures

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#### Recommended Citation

Voice Media Ventures, "Vol.51 n.09 September 21st 2023" (2023). *Black Voice News*. 740.  
<https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/blackvoice/740>

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## Legacy of Hate: 60th Anniversary of the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing

by Prince James Story



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## ESTABLISHED 1972

Voice Media Ventures  
Post Office Box 912  
Riverside, California 92502  
(951) 682-6070

Published every Thursday and distributed throughout the Inland Empire adjudicated, a legal newspaper of general circulation on July 8, 1974 Case # 108890 by the Superior Court of Riverside County. Stories published do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publishers. Member of: National Newspaper Publishers Association, California Black Media and California News Publishers Association

## Still No Oversight of Riverside Sheriff's Department Even as Corrections Officers are Arrested and More Inmates Die



*It is obvious from this group photo that the Riverside County Sheriff's department has strayed from projecting even the bare minimum image of professionalism and is more at ease with a disheveled projection of what the department has become under the stewardship of Chad Bianco. (source: twitter).*

A 2023 California Democratic Party Resolution states, "Whereas recent incidents and concerns regarding the conduct of some law enforcement personnel have demonstrated the necessity of independent oversight...not all counties have established an oversight board."

The resolution calls for the creation of the Office of Inspector General and Oversight Committees for Law Enforcement Agencies in counties of California that have not established oversight boards under existing California law—including here in Riverside County where in-custody deaths continue to mount.

The need for such oversight in this county is more than warranted. With a record number of 19 in-custody deaths in 2022 and the number of in-custody deaths climbing again this year—two additional in-custody deaths were recorded in the last 30 days—the sheriff and the county's Board of Supervisors seem hesitant to do anything different whether it is reviewing policy or establishing oversight to put brakes on the recurring loss of lives.

Despite an ongoing Patterns and Practices Civil Rights investigation of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department by California Attorney General Rob Bonta that was triggered by the

increased number of deaths in Riverside County jail facilities last year, Sheriff Chad Bianco seems unable to direct his disheveled corps of deputies to protect the lives of those entrusted to their care.

While the community waits for the completion of the CA DOJ Civil Rights investigation, people in-custody continue to die and corrections officers are being arrested for misdeeds on Bianco's watch, while the Board of Supervisors sits frozen and are not using the limited leverage they do have to establish oversight.

Although sheriff departments in both Los Angeles and San Diego Counties have acquiesced to oversight and despite Bianco's promise when under pressure last year to acquiesce to a mere review of sheriff department policies that he would set up a sheriff's advisory council—he has made zero visible effort in that regard.

Bianco's resistance to oversight is evident and he does so with the full throated support of his puppeteer, Riverside County Sheriff's Association President Bill Young. This included pushback against efforts by the Board Supervisors for any type of transparency related to the sheriff's department.

As noted above, in 2020, following the death

*continued on page 14*





# ZERO LITTER IS THE GOAL.



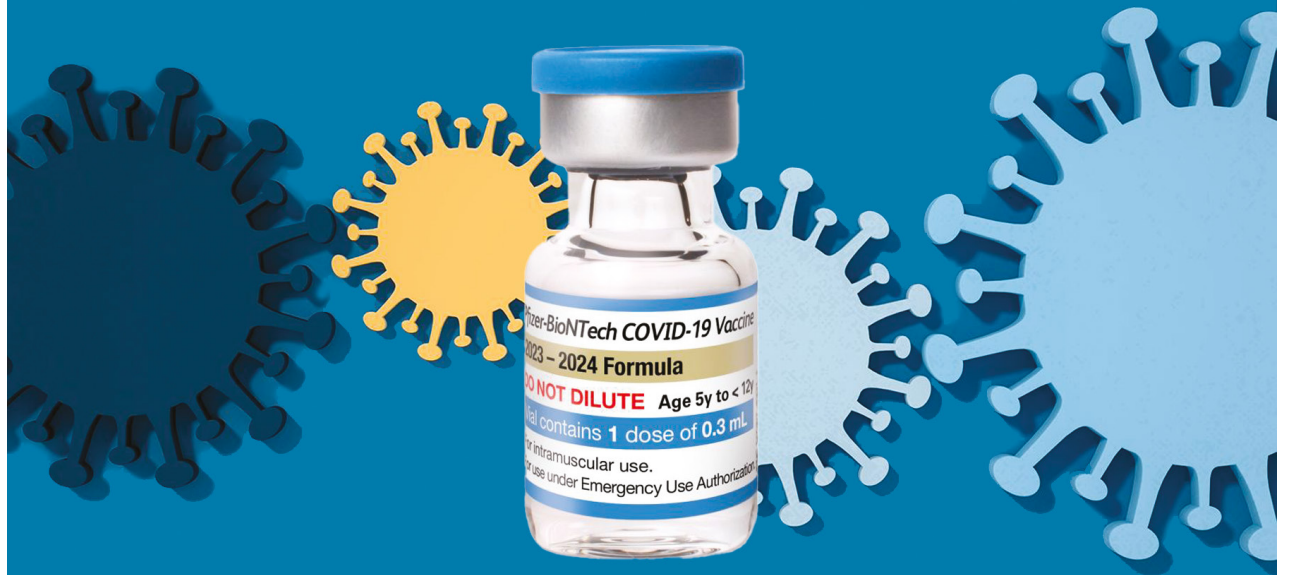
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## IN THE NEWS

### Updated COVID-19 Booster Shots Available Soon



The FDA's approval of updated booster shots comes as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are on the rise across the U.S. with the spread of new Omicron variants.(source: file image)

#### Breanna Reeves | Staff

**T**he U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved and authorized the emergency use of updated COVID-19 booster shots that are designed to target the Omicron variant XBB.1.5. Following the FDA's decision, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices met on Sept. 12 to decide who should receive the mRNA updated vaccine.

The FDA's approval comes as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are on the rise across the U.S. with the spread of new Omicron variants. BA.2.86 has been identified by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and has been found in wastewater. According to the CDC's latest risk assessment, recent increases in

COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in the U.S. are "not being driven by BA.2.86 and instead are being caused by other predominantly circulating viruses."

The updated booster formula, manufactured by Moderna and Pfizer, includes a monovalent (single) component that correlates with the Omicron variant XBB.1.5. While new variants have been identified as more infectious and harmful, the FDA stated that the updated vaccines are expected to provide good protection against COVID-19 from current variants.

According to the FDA, recent studies conducted regarding the vaccines suggested that the updated formula was a "good match" for protection against currently circulating variants,

*continued on page 14*



**Breanna Reeves | Photos by  
Aryana Noroozi**

“Our planet has just endured a season of simmering — the hottest summer on record. “Climate breakdown has begun,” said United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Sept. 6.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) noted that August was the hottest month on record, followed by July, according to data from the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), an information service funded by the European Union.

On Aug. 29, the National Weather Services issued heat advisories in eight counties and excessive heat warnings across eight counties in California. Both advisories were issued for Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Temperatures rose to three digit numbers, ranging from 101 degrees to 114 degrees in both regions.

With the growing number of hotter days, climate experts suggest that in the future, summer may last longer than what is typical and extreme heat days will get hotter. By the end of the century, extreme heat temperatures could increase by roughly eight to 14 degrees Fahrenheit compared to historical records, according to Dr. Francesca Hopkins, climate change scientist and associate professor of climate change & sustainability at the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

According to a 2022 presentation from the city of Riverside’s office of sustainability and Riverside public utilities, the average annual maximum temperature will increase between five and eight degrees by the year 2100, with the average hottest day ranging from 114 degrees to 120 degrees.

### **The Impacts of Heat on Health**

With extreme heat comes heat-related illnesses which can vary from a heat rash to a heat stroke. Heat-related illnesses have been on the rise with such extreme temperatures lasting throughout the summer. Southern California residents, especially those across the Inland Empire, often deal with heat-related illnesses,

## **Consequences of Extreme Heat**



*A pedestrian walks down Riverside Avenue in Rialto on September 5, 2023. This summer, excessive heat warnings were issued across eight counties in California, including Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Temperatures rose to three digit numbers, ranging from 101 degrees to 114 degrees in both regions. (Aryana Noroozi for Black Voice News / CatchLight Local)*

according to Dr. Shunling Tsang, deputy public health officer for Riverside University Health System (RUHS).

Riverside County has been tracking who’s impacted by the heat through their Heat-Related Illnesses Dashboard which displays heat-related hospitalizations and heat-related deaths across the county. The dashboard includes demographic data such as age, race/ethnicity and location.

“It gives us an idea of maybe some hotspots or some additional education that we can provide in the community,” Dr. Tsang explained. “So, being able to have visibility into where there might be an additional heat-related illness spike, we can then say maybe we need to provide additional education in that area to the residents who live there.”

According to the dashboard, hospitals in the Coachella Valley have experienced the most

emergency room visits, accounting for 56.7% of heat-related hospitalizations in the county. Nearly 43% of those who were hospitalized identify as Hispanic or Latino. According to the Coachella Valley Water District, Coachella Valley’s farmland is among the largest crop-growing regions in the state with an estimated 8,000 agricultural workers laboring outdoors year-round.

“People who work in outdoor jobs, especially farmworkers, don’t have access to air conditioning during their work shift. They may be out during the hottest times of the day,” Dr. Hopkins explained. “I think those are groups we need to be concerned about, and that includes people that are unhoused, which we know we have a lot of in our communities as well.”

San Bernardino County’s 2023 Homeless

*continued on page 17*







## Luca Martinez | Contributor Photos by Aryana Noroozi

You could call it a restaurant founded on a gamble and rooted in authenticity. You should call it the first of its kind. But more than anything, you must call Daysi's Gusto Nicaraguan Cuisine the culmination of one woman's lifelong dream.

The dream, after some initial pandemic and foot traffic challenges, has taken off for owner Daysi Barberena, who immigrated to the United States in 1972. She opened the restaurant in 2016 using her life savings from 40 years working in data entry, with the goal of sharing her country's cuisine.

"We are the first and only in the Inland Empire," said Barberena, a 67-year-old native of Nicaragua's capital Managua.

Today, that reputation has helped the restaurant blossom into not only a hub for the Nicaraguan community but for several cultures. The welcoming environment yields people from multiple cities, states and countries.

On any given day, people from Central America, South Africa and the Philippines will all be enjoying food in the restaurant. Other times, returning customers from Arizona, Las Vegas or San Diego will make hour-long drives just for dishes that they can't find anywhere else.

"People from Africa come because of the yucca we serve," Barberena said. "People from the Philippines come because we serve plantains. They each identify with a certain food."

At its core, however, the restaurant is a symbol of Barberena's homeland.

The blue painted walls proudly feature a Nicaraguan flag along with a map of the country because "not too many people know where Nicaragua is," said Barberena. Restaurant workers wear uniforms that carry a sacuanjoche, (Plumeria rubra) the country's national flower. And customers are welcome to buy any of the keychains, t-shirts or handmade sandals coming from Nicaragua.

People come here and meet each other and reconnect with their families so it's been a pleasure to serve the Nicaraguan people in this way," Barberena said.

## Food is The Language of Love Part 4: Spreading Nicaraguan Culture through a Dream Come True



Daysi Barberena poses for a portrait behind the counter of her Rialto restaurant, Daysi's Gusto Nicaraguan Cuisine, on September 5, 2023. Barberena immigrated to the United States in 1972 from Nicaragua's capital Managua and opened the restaurant in 2016 using her life savings from 40 years working in data entry. (Aryana Noroozi for Black Voice News / CatchLight Local)

Then, there's the food.

Most popular are the fritangas, which are a set of fried foods and a reference to Nicaraguan street eateries. In both cases, they are a homage to Barberena's younger years. As a child, she recalls frequently going out to the eateries for dinner with family and friends.

"Fritangas are like taquerias here," Barberena said.

Now at her restaurant, clients can customize their fritanga plates. Each one comes with a cabbage salad, fried cheese, choice of rice, choice of meat (pork, grilled beef or chicken) and choice of plantains — fried ripe plantains, fried green plantains or tostones (chips). The restaurant also serves other traditional

plates including enchiladas de res, a distant cousin of the Mexican enchilada, and two dishes available only on weekends: baho and nacatamales.

Baho is a steamed dish prepared using yucca, beef and plantains, with the ingredients added to a cooking pot that is sealed with layers of banana leaves to hold in the flavors.

Nacatamales, made with the recipe of Barberena's mother, are Nicaraguan tamales made with banana leaves.

Another restaurant main attraction is the caballo bayo, a dish served with three types of meats, yuca, green and ripe fried plantains and, perhaps most notably, gallo pinto — the national

*continued on page 12*



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<sup>2</sup>**Additional information about the America's Home Grant program:** The America's Home Grant program is a lender credit. Program funds can only be used for nonrecurring closing costs including title insurance, recording fees, and in certain situations, discount points may be used to lower the interest rate. The grant cannot be applied toward down payment, prepaid items or recurring costs, such as property taxes and insurance. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back.

<sup>3</sup>**Additional information about the Down Payment program:** Down Payment program is available with one mortgage product. Program funds can be applied toward down payment only. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back in excess of earned money deposits. Down Payment Grant program may be considered taxable income, a 1099-MISC will be issued, consult with your tax advisor. May be combined with other offers. The Bank of America Down Payment Grant program may only be applied once to an eligible mortgage/property, regardless of the number of applicants. Homebuyer education is required.

<sup>4</sup>Maximum income and loan amount limits apply. Fixed-rate mortgages (no cash out refinances), primary residences only. Certain property types are ineligible. Maximum loan-to-value ("LTV") is 97%, and maximum combined LTV is 105%. For LTV >95%, any secondary financing must be from an approved Community Second Program. Homebuyer education may be required. Other restrictions apply.

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# Legacy of Hate: 60th Anniversary of the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing

by Prince James Story

**S**ixty years ago, on September 15, 1963, the day started as a typical Sunday for most residents in Birmingham, Alabama—they woke up and prepared for church.

Before 10 a.m., children poured into the 16th Street Baptist Church to attend Sunday school.

Before the main sermon began, Addie Mae Collins, Carol Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley entered the bathroom.

At 10:22 a.m., a bomb, positioned under the steps outside the church by Ku Klux Klan members, exploded.

On the other side of the steps was the ladies' restroom, which took the brunt of the impact.

Collins, Wesley, and Robertson were just 14 years old, and McNair, 11, all died from the impact.

Sarah Collins Rudolph, Addie Mae's younger sister, was also in the bathroom at the time of the explosion. She was taken to the hospital with shrapnel in her eyes and body.

Collins Rudolph is still alive today but carries the devastating events of September 15 with her every day. Due to the explosion, she lost an eye and still has pieces of glass in the other eye.

In previous interviews, Collins Rudolph noted that one of the last things she remembers before the bomb went off was that McNair asked Addie Mae Collins to tie the sash on the back of her dress.

When Collins reached out to tie the sash, the bomb erupted.

The 16th Street Baptist Church was a staple gathering place in the Birmingham Black community, where Civil Rights advocates, musicians, and others visited when they were in



60 years ago, on September 15, 1963, during the peak of the Civil Rights Movement, members of the Ku Klux Klan bombed the 16 Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL. Killing four little girls: Addie Mae Collins, Carol Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley. (source: nps.gov)



Denise McNair

Carole Robertson

Addie Mae Collins

Cynthia Morris Wesley

At 10:22 a.m., on the morning of September 15, 1963, a bomb placed by Ku Klux Klan members under the front steps outside the 16th Street church exploded, killing Addie Mae Collins, Carol Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley. (Courtesy of Lisa McNair)

town. Prominent leaders in the Black community, including W.E.B. Du Bois, Marian Anderson, and Paul Robeson, came to Birmingham and attended the church.

The church was built in 1873, and was initially called the First Colored Baptist Church of Birmingham. The building that stands today

was completed in 1911.

The church was a center for community and economic development. The idea to create the first, four-year high school for Black children in the region was cultivated at the 16th Street Baptist Church. The idea for the first Black

*continued on next page*



# FEATURE STORY



Some of the damage caused by the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. (source: bplonline.contentdm.oclc.org)

bank in Birmingham was also proposed by congregation members at the church.

When the Klan decided to send a statement, they chose this church because they recognized its significance in the community. Two weeks before the bombing, Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his infamous “I Have A Dream Speech” in Washington D.C.

“After this Sunday, they will beg us to segregate,” Robert “Dynamite” Chambliss, a member of white supremacist group “Cahaba River Boys” who planned the bombing, said after the bomb exploded.

The bombing also occurred five days after President John F. Kennedy federalized the Alabama National Guard to enforce the ruling to allow Black students to attend all-white schools in Birmingham and across the state.

“The meaning and the intent there was to take a stab at the city of Birmingham’s Board of Education and primarily our Black community. If you could intimidate people enough, then they

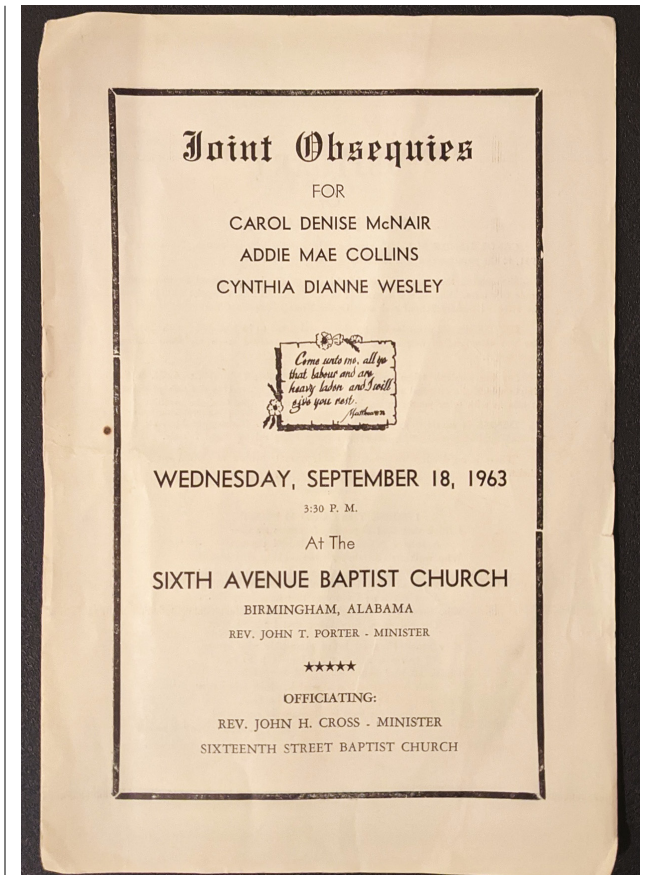
would unveil themselves of their constitutionally given rights,” said Barry McNealy, historical content expert for the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

On the evening of Sept. 15, 1963, Birmingham community members hit the streets in solidarity to protest the violent attack.

Hundreds of police officers and state troopers were dispatched to Birmingham to quell the protest.

On an already tragic day, more tragedy followed with the murders of two more Black adolescents who were killed later that evening in separate racist acts of violence.

Thirteen-year-old Virgil Ware was riding on the handlebars of his brother's bike on their way home. At the time, they weren't even aware of the bombing. Two white teenagers, 16-year-old Larry Sims and Michael Farley, were riding by when they saw Ware and his brother. Sims and Farley were leaving a rally led by a white supremacist group when they decided to try and intimidate the two brothers.



1963 funeral program for church bombings. Courtesy of Wikipedia.com

Sims shot Ware twice, killing him.

Sims and Farley were convicted of first-degree murder, and with the leniency of an all-white jury and judge, the two teens were given a seven-month sentence. The judge later suspended their sentence and gave them two years of probation.

Sixteen-year-old Johnnie Robinson lost his life that evening, too when he was shot in the back by a police officer.

McNealy said that after the bombing, white teenagers with a Confederate flag on their car were taunting Black teenagers, and using racial slurs.

In anger, these kids picked up rocks and started throwing them at cars driving through their community.

The Birmingham police were called, and when they arrived, Johnson and his friends ran. Officers chased after them, and one officer opened fire on Robinson, shooting him in his back.

That officer was never arrested.

A few days after the violent death of the



four little girls killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist church, over 8,000 people of all races gathered to pay their respects and listen to Dr. King give the eulogy at the memorial service for three of the four girls.

Robertson's family had already made plans for her to be eulogized in her home church, where another Civil Rights leader, Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth, gave her eulogy.

Chambliss was charged and convicted for the bombing of the church in 1977. His two

“

*In the aftermath of that fateful day on September 15, 1963, our city and our nation had to take a hard look at itself and reckon with the devastating effects of hate and racism.*

- Office of Birmingham Mayor Randall L. Woodfin

”

accomplices, Thomas Blanton and Bobby Frank Cherry, were tried and convicted in 2001 and 2002 respectively by former United States Senator Doug Jones.

A suspected fourth conspirator, Herman Cash, died in 1994 before he was tried for his involvement in the bombing of the church.

## Where We Are 60 Years Later

It's been 60 years since the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing and Black Americans continue to reflect on the devastating event.

“In the aftermath of that fateful day on September 15, 1963, our city and our nation had to take a hard look at itself and reckon with the devastating effects of hate and racism,” said the office of Birmingham Mayor Randall L. Woodfin in a statement sent to Black Voice News.



The monument is located in Kelly Ingram Park, of the Four little girls named “The Four Spirits” created by a Birmingham native, Elizabeth MacQueen. (source: [civildiscourse-historyblog.com](http://civildiscourse-historyblog.com))

“Today, in the spirit of the Four Little Girls, we work to be better and honor them by preserving our history and building a future worthy of their sacrifice. We welcome the world to once again turn their eyes toward Birmingham as we reflect on the lessons of the past but also turn our eyes toward the future as we forge a way toward peace and justice for all,” said Woodfin.

Riverside County Branch NAACP president, Dr. Regina Patton Stell, was 13 years old when the bombing happened.

“When you hear about any one story where the [people] in the story, really, remind you of yourself, that's trauma,” said Stell.

When asked her opinion on where we are today regarding race relations, Stell quoted Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

Lisa McNair, younger sister of Carole Denise McNair, shared her thoughts on the current state of the country, 60 years after the bombing.

As states across the U.S. enact legislation to

restrict Ethnic Studies and African American classes and ban children from learning the truth about slavery, American history — Black history — is being erased, she advised.

McNair explained that if people like Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Alabama school educators take Black and Civil Rights history out of the classroom, the country will be turning the clock back by 60 years.

“I think we're at a precipice of doing the right thing,” said McNair. “We're all human beings. We're all Americans, and if you would not want these things to happen to you, you must not let them happen to your fellow American brother and sister.”

It's been 60 years since the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, and Black Americans are still facing racial violence, discrimination, and educational barriers as legislation threatens to erase history.



# IN THE NEWS

*Food is the Language of Love, continued from page 7*



A fritanga plate with chicken, carne asada and shredded beef sits on the counter, ready to be delivered to a table on September 5, 2023. (Aryana Noroozi for Black Voice News / CatchLight Local)

dish of Nicaragua.

In its simplest form, gallo pinto is a mixture of rice and beans that can be eaten by itself or with other dishes. However for many, such as Barberena's oldest daughter Inez Perkins, gallo pinto symbolizes much more.

The dish was a staple in the family's home while she was growing up, Perkins said. And even today, she can open her refrigerator and find gallo pinto at nearly any time of the day.

But it wasn't until last year, during a visit to Nicaragua with her mother, that Perkins realized the full importance of the dish to her family.

"It feeds so many," Perkins said. "And my mom grew up on a level of poverty, that her mom making the food went such a long way. So, I further learned to appreciate that we have what we have because of the sacrifices of my parents."

Those sacrifices made it easy for the family

to get behind Barberena's goal of owning a restaurant. No one in the family, including Barberena, can pinpoint exactly when the dream began, just that she's always enjoyed the kitchen and excelled at cooking.

Perkins said her friends learned early on about her mom's Nicaraguan dishes. And on one Mother's Day, the family bought her cooking classes. Another year, they gave her a professional chef's apron with her name.

"I can't remember where she wasn't talking about opening a restaurant," Perkins said. "Anyone who knows her, knows her dream was always to open a restaurant."

Though supportive, the family did worry about the risks. Barberena was in the midst of retiring and proposing putting all her savings to the restaurant.

So, to ensure its success, the restaurant



(Top): Keychains and other Nicaraguan pride decor hang behind the counter for sale at Daysi's Gusto Nicaraguan Cuisine on September 5, 2023. (Bottom): Barberena and one of the restaurant's cooks, Maria J Pauth prepare a fritanga plate on September 5, 2023. (Aryana Noroozi for Black Voice News / CatchLight Local)

became a family effort. Each of Barberena's three daughters, son-in-laws and some grandchildren have spent days working in the business. Together, they got through the early challenges of not having enough clientele and then a raging pandemic that closed off in-door dining.

At the helm, however, remains Barberena. Most days, you will still find her in the back of the restaurant cutting onions, spreading her culture through food and continuing the dream.

"This risk definitely has paid off," Perkins said. "It made her happy. I can see the joy in her when she cooks for people or when people come to the restaurant and they've been looking for a Nicaragüense restaurant."

Daysi's Gusto Nicaraguan Cuisine is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is located at 625 S Riverside Ave. in Rialto.



# POWER OF THE PRESS

## BVN@50 EXHIBIT

SAN BERNARDINO  
COUNTY MUSEUM



### Power of the Press Black Voice News @ 50 Exhibit

Open through March 3, 2024

Commemorating 50 years of service as a source for community news and information in the Inland Empire, **Power of the Press: Black Voice News @ 50**, documents the transformation of the **Black Voice News** from a printed community weekly newspaper to a digital solutions focused, data reporting news organization.

The exhibit highlights not only the organization's work as local government watchdogs but as recorders of Black life in the Inland Empire, including profiles of leaders making a difference in communities across the region, coverage of community events, mapping community assets, and reporting on the fight for social justice and racial equity.



San Bernardino  
County Museum



VOICE

20  
23





## IN THE NEWS

*Updated COVID-19, continued from page 4*

including EG.5 and BA.2.86.

The CDC has currently identified new variants of concern, both subvariants of the Omicron variant, called EG.5, which accounts for 21.5% of current cases as of Sept. 2, and FL.1.5., which accounts for 14.5% of new cases.

"[A]n updated vaccine will shortly become available that helps address multiple Omicron XBB-related sublineages, which currently account for the vast majority of COVID-19 cases globally," said Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D., CEO and Co-founder of BioNTech, in a press release.

"Studies about confirmed viral infections suggest that COVID-19 adopts a seasonal pattern with peaks in fall and winter, similar to other respiratory viruses."

The FDA "anticipates" that the COVID-19 vaccine formula may need to be updated annually, similar to how the flu vaccine is updated seasonally.

Both updated vaccines are each approved for individuals 12 years of age and older, and are authorized for emergency use for children six months old through 11 years old. According to the FDA, following the rollout of the update vaccine, the previous bivalent Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are no longer authorized for use in the U.S.

"The public can be assured that these updated vaccines have met the agency's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality," said Dr. Peter Marks, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, in a statement. "We very much encourage those who are eligible to consider getting vaccinated."

On the agenda for the CDC's Advisory Committee meeting was the COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness update, evidence and recommendations, and an overview of vaccine implementation.

Once the committee releases their guidance on vaccines, CVS Pharmacy said they will update their systems to provide vaccine scheduling and offer walk-in appointments to eligible patients. For those with health insurance, vaccines will be free under their plans. However, some worry

*continued on page 19*

## KEEPING IT REAL

*Still no Oversight, continued from page 3*

of George Floyd, Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez proposed a measure calling for a review of the sheriff department policies that regulate the use of force, mass demonstrations, consent before searches, racial profiling, gender identification, community policing and crime reduction. Although the measure did not include a recommendation for the establishment of an oversight committee/commission, this simple request for a mere review of policies was roundly rejected by Young who declared, "While we understand the current spotlight on policing, we do not believe that it is constructive to have a political body demand full-scale policy reviews when they do not have the legal authority to set or change any policy that is reviewed." And in response, as to be expected by those who depend on police union support for their reelection campaigns, board members backed away from the measure and it has yet to resurface for consideration.

With this history it is no surprise that even with the aberrant number of deaths in Riverside County's jail facilities in 2022, and a Patterns and Practices Civil Rights investigation into the sheriff's department in 2023, the Board has failed to move on any measure aimed at reviewing sheriff department policy, holding the sheriff's department accountable or providing even limited oversight.

Of course, because sheriffs are elected and not appointed like city police chiefs, the Board has limited legal power and authority over the sheriff and how he manages the department as he arrogantly reminded them last year.

"It's not your job to tell me what to do," Bianco proclaimed in response to the Perez measure. This is when he shared his intent to form an advisory council making it clear however, that he alone would decide who should participate in it. As previously noted, he never delivered on that proclamation.

There are, however, other options. AB1185 signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019, authorized but did not mandate, counties to establish a sheriff oversight board to assist boards of supervisors with duties related to the sheriff. The law provides this can occur either by action of the Board or through a vote of county residents.

This is another example of well intended legislative reform related to criminal justice that falls short of its mark because as we see here in Riverside, without a mandate the measure is powerless as board members appear powerless or

unwilling to push back against the pressures and influence of police unions who were adamantly opposed to the bill.

There is a caveat however, if the supervisors fail or refuse to act, a local measure can be placed on the ballot thereby giving voters an opportunity to decide for themselves.

In the meantime, the attorney general continues his civil rights investigation, while inmates (most still awaiting trial) continue to die in-custody.

Without some sort of oversight, I question how will we ever know the truth about inmate deaths since the Coroner, who investigates and reports on all violent, sudden or unusual deaths of those within the county including those in-custody, is under the auspices of the sheriff.

"Politics is killing our country and this is an example," said Bianco in response to the 2020 measure proposed by V. Manuel Perez.

To that I say, "No, Chad," it is your ineffective leadership and band of misfits currently operating as officers in our jail facilities that are killing members of this community.

And when I say misfits I mean exactly that. On Wednesday, Sept. 13 a Riverside correctional deputy was arrested when it was determined he was under the influence of a drug and in possession of it inside a jail. And we wonder why inmates are dying of overdoses.

A few days later, on Saturday, September 16 another corrections deputy was arrested this time the charges were even worse. He is suspected of extorting female inmates for sex and sexually assaulting one of them.

While the community sits back waiting for the completion of the Civil Rights investigation, people continue to die on Bianco's watch. It seems apparent the Board of Supervisors is frozen and will not act against Bianco.

Is the community willing to settle for such inaction or will it take it upon themselves to force a measure onto a future ballot calling for the establishment of a sheriff oversight board as authorized under AB1185?

I think it is passed time for citizens to act on this issue.

Of course this is just my opinion. I'm keeping it real.

S.E. Williams  
Executive Editor







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## Consequences, continued from page 5

Count Survey reported 2,976 unsheltered adults and children, up from 2,389 in 2022. Riverside County's Point-in-Time count of unhoused residents showed an increase in the houseless populations from 3,316 in 2022 to 3,725 in 2023.

Unhoused populations, along with agricultural workers, are exposed to extreme heat because they are outdoors and lack shelter from the shade. Unhoused individuals may be forced to dwell on concrete sidewalks which retain heat during the summer and can be a hazard to sleep or lay on.

"When you're in areas that have more paved surfaces, such as near a warehouse or in really developed urban cores of cities, those areas tend to be hotter. We have this term urban heat island to refer to that," Dr. Hopkins shared. "It's because those paved surfaces are really good at absorbing the sun's radiation, basically the heat of the sun, during the day when the sun is shining directly on them."

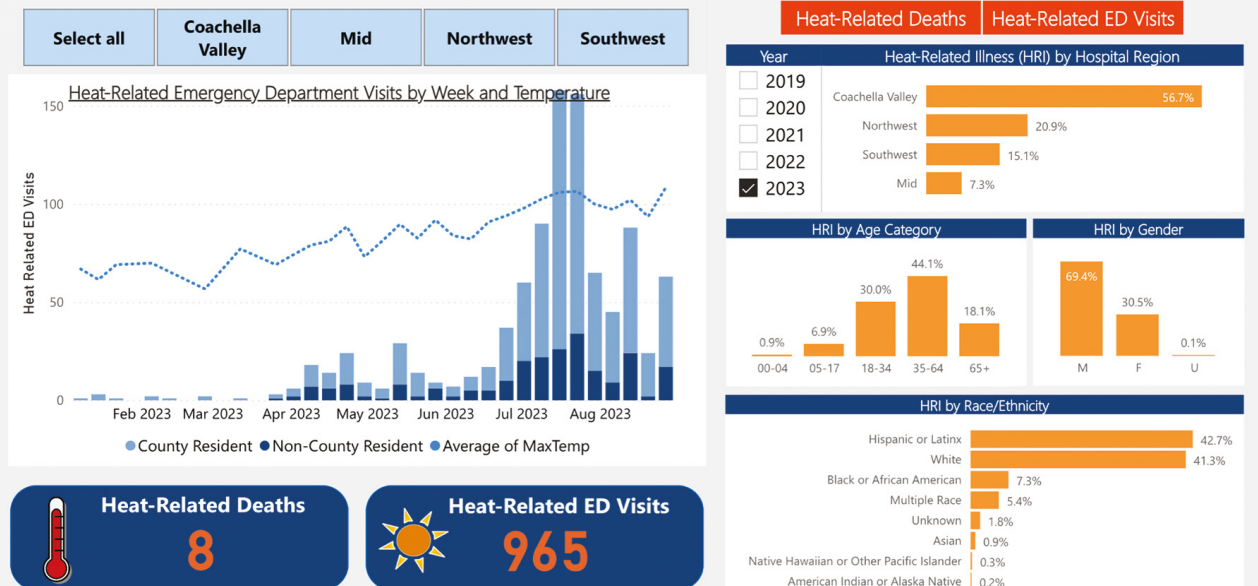
In addition to unhoused people and agricultural workers being more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses due to extended exposure to heat, older adults, younger children and people with certain health conditions are also at higher risks for developing heat-related illnesses. Those who also lack air conditioning and who may live in mobile dwellings also experience extreme heat, despite being indoors.

## Environmental equity and the cost of keeping cool

As temperatures are expected to rise in coming weeks, Dr. Tsang shared ways people can protect themselves against extreme heat by first taking time to check their body for warning signs like excessive sweating, additional exhaustion, reddening skin or sensitivity to the sun. Dr. Tsang suggested that people experiencing these symptoms should drink water, wear sunscreen, and check on elderly neighbors.

Residents of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties also have access to cooling centers throughout the region where they can stay out of the sun. Cooling centers include public libraries, community centers and senior centers where people can seek protection from the heat.

## RIVERSIDE COUNTY HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS DASHBOARD



Riverside University Health System created a Heat-Related Illnesses Dashboard to track residents experiencing heat-related illnesses and emergency visits for the last several years. (Image via RUHS)



(Left): A gardener tends to a lawn in Rialto on September 5, 2023. Hospitals in the Coachella Valley have experienced the most emergency room visits, accounting for 56.7% of heat-related hospitalizations in the county. People who work in outdoor jobs are vulnerable as they don't have access to air conditioning during their work shift; (Right): The Rialto Public Library serves as a cooling center on September 5, 2023. Residents of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties have access to cooling centers throughout the region where they can stay out of the sun. (Aryana Noroozi for Black Voice News / CatchLight Local)



Dr. Hopkins acknowledged the importance of access to green spaces and canopy coverage to protect residents from the heat. Parks and other outdoor spaces covered by trees tend to be cooler because they are watered often and they provide shade from the sun. Surfaces like the leaves, grass and soil hold on to the water as it evaporates, which keeps the area cooler.

"I think one of the things we really need to think about going forward with climate change is how can we make sure that we're taking

advantage of this evaporative cooling from green landscapes in a way that's optimal for all communities," Dr. Hopkins said. "Because there's a very well-documented disparity in terms of who actually has access to neighborhoods with trees and parks."

Black and brown communities tend to have a higher urban heat island effect, fewer green spaces and less tree cover compared to higher

continued on page 19



# publicnotices

seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202312242  
**p. 8/31/23, 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**ABC KIDS PREPARATORY SCHOOL, LLC**  
**1678 Gazebo Ln**  
**Hemet, CA 92545**  
**RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
**ABC KIDS PREPARATORY SCHOOL, LLC**  
**1678 Gazebo Ln**  
**Hemet, CA 92545**  
**CA**

This business is conducted by: Corporation  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000) s. Taronikka Sullivan, President  
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b & p code)

Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 08/18/2023

I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202312377  
**p. 8/31/23, 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**E.X.C.E.L HOUSE**  
**24051 Marie St**  
**Perris, CA 92570**  
**RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
**25920 Iris Ave 13A**  
**Moreno Valley, CA 92551**  
**E.M.R.G. E. Inc.**  
**24051 Marie St**  
**Perris, CA 92570**  
**CA**

This business is conducted by: Corporation  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/2018

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000) s. Glen Bernard Walls CFO

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b & p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 8/22/2023

I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202312474  
**p. 8/31/23, 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV2304221

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: VALENCIA STOKES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: KAI JORDAN MOTHERSHED to. KAI JORDAN MOTHERSHED -STOKES . The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 11/1/2023 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST STE D201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553, MORENO VALLEY SUPERIOR COURT . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507

Date: 8/14/2023  
BELINDA A. HANDY, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/05/23, 10/12/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV2303694

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: DARLINE CARDENAS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: CALVIN CONTRERAS-CARDENAS to. CALVIN CONTRERAS. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 10/26/2023 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST #0201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507

Date: 7/21/2023  
Commissioner David E. Gregory Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/05/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV 2304314

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: ALISHA SHERMANE JONES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: LEWIS ANTHONY YANEZ 2nd to. LEWIS LAVELT ANTHONY YANEZ JONES. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 11/15/2023 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST BLDG D, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553, MORENO VALLEY COURTHOUSE . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: AUG 18, 2023  
BELINDA A. HANDY, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/05/23, 10/12/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV2304570

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: RENEASHA DENISE JONES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: RENEASHA DENISE JONES to. JESSICA RENEE TRASS. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 11/22/2023 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST #0201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: 8/31/2023  
Melinda A. Handy, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV 2304435

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: EVA LUZ GONZALEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: EVA LUZ GONZALEZ to. LIZ TAPIA GASTELUM. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any

person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 11/17/23 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK STREET, D201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: 8/25/2023  
Belinda A. Handy, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVSW2305672

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: ANTHONY CRAIG MATHEWS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ANTHONY CRAIG MATHEWS to. ANTONIO ALEKSANDER HALCYON. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 10/26/2023 Time: 8:00AM Dept: S101. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 30755-AULD ROAD, MURRIETTA, CA 92563, SOUTHWEST JUSTICE CENTER . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: 9/7/2023  
Commissioner James Hodgkins, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/05/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVCO 2303936

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: NEVAEH ROSE SALAZAR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: NEVAEH ROSE SALAZAR to. NEVAEH ROSE BOUNDS. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 10/11/23 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 505 S. BUENA VISTA, RM 201, CORONA, CA 92882 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS

1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: 8/25/2023

Tamara L. Wagner, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23**

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV2304342

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: ARTHUR PARIS TUASON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ARTHUR PARIS TUASON to. ARTHUR PATRICK TUASON. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: DATE: 11/15/23 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK STREET, BLDG #D201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507  
Date: 8/22/2023  
Belinda A. Handy, Judge of the Superior Court  
**p. 8/31/23, 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

## NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: FRANCES S. GARCIA Case Number PRRI2301807

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: FRANCES S. GARCIA. An Amended Petition for Probate has been filed by LARRY B. GARCIA in the Superior Court of California, County of: RIVERSIDE.

The Amended Petition requests that LARRY B. GARCIA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The Amended Petition requests to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: 10/20/2023 Time: 8:30 am Dept: 11 The Courts address is the SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 4050 MAIN ST, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501. CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California are available the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Bryan C. Hartnell, Esq. Hartnell Law Group, APC 25757 Redlands Boulevard. Redlands, CA 92373-8453  
**p. 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California are available the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Antoniette Jauregui, 1894 Commercenter W. Suite 108, San Bernardino, CA 92408  
**p. 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/05/23**

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WILLIAM D. RICH aka WILLIAM DOUGLAS RICH aka WILLIAM RICH Case Number PRRI 2301909

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: WILLIAM D. RICH aka WILLIAM DOUGLAS RICH aka WILLIAM RICH. A Petition for Probate has been filed by IRENE C. WEAVER in the Superior Court of California, County of: RIVERSIDE. The Petition for Probate requests that IRENE C. WEAVER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: 10/30/2023 Time: 8:30 am Dept: 8 The Courts address is the SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 4050 MAIN ST, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501. CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California are available the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Bryan C. Hartnell, Esq. Hartnell Law Group, APC 25757 Redlands Boulevard. Redlands, CA 92373-8453  
**p. 9/07/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23**

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## Updated COVID-19, continued from page 12

about those who are not insured, especially as Medi-Cal continues to disenroll thousands of Californians.

With the end of the U.S. Government COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Program, roughly 25-30 million adults (ages 18-64) without insurance and other adults whose insurance will not provide free COVID-19 vaccines may not have access to the new boosters.

Under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services's (HHS) Bridge Access Program For COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments, uninsured and underinsured individuals will receive free COVID-19 vaccines for a limited time once they are moved to the "commercial market."

Administered by the CDC, the program has begun providing free coverage for millions of adults who may have lost access to COVID-19 vaccines. Uninsured individuals will be able to access vaccines at their local pharmacies and local health centers, according to HHS. Doses will be available in some locations now, with distribution increasing in the coming weeks.

However, the free vaccines through this program will not be available after December 2024.

Similar to the 1993 federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program that provided vaccine access at no cost for nearly half of U.S. children and adolescents, the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program has been proposed in both the Fiscal Year 2023 and 2024 Presidential Budgets. VFA would cover all recommended vaccinations at no cost for uninsured adults, but has not yet been enacted into law.

*This article is published as part of the Commonwealth Fund Health Equity Reporting Fellowship.*



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# IN THE NEWS

## Consequences, continued from page 17

income areas with large white populations, Dr. Hopkins noted. According to the Center for American Progress, 74% of communities of color in the contiguous U.S. live in "nature-deprived areas," compared to 23% of white communities.

While some households may have access to air conditioning, people with low incomes may have a hard time paying the electricity bills associated with air conditioning costs. According to data from Southern California Edison (SCE), the average residential electricity bill for the month of June has steadily increased each year as SCE residential rates increased. For the month of June 2023, the average monthly residential bill was \$183 for residences who did not receive support from financial assistance programs.

SCE provides electricity to 15 million people across portions of 15 counties including San Bernardino County and parts of Riverside County. Gabriela Ornelas, spokesperson with SCE, explained that average monthly bills depend on several factors including the weather and climate zones. Roughly 90% of San Bernardino County — the largest county by area in the U.S. — is desert terrain.

"Customers who live in the desert may have higher energy use during the summer than a customer that lives on the coast simply because they don't need to use their AC as much," Ornelas said. SCE has also upgraded their grid to protect it from extreme weather and cyber attacks which contributes to their rate changes which usually occurs twice a year in January and June.

While temperatures will continue to rise as Earth warms, Dr. Hopkins is optimistic that the amount of warming can be limited by cutting emissions — "our fate isn't sealed," she remarked.

*This article is published as part of the Commonwealth Fund Health Equity Reporting Fellowship.*



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