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Inland Southern California's News Weekly

VOICE

May 13, 2021 Volume 48 | Issue 43

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Pushing Through the Pandemic: How a Local Domestic Violence Agency Stayed True to Its Mission



Inside: Victorville - City Council Critics Suspect Political Power Maneuvers

• **VOICE**

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A Mother's Day Reflection

"[W]hile individual experiences may vary—we speak different languages and live in different countries with varying traditions— we all battle anxieties and are united by our dreams for our children."

- Dalal Al-Waheidi

Like most everyone this Mother's Day, I reflected on the continuing impact my own mother and foremothers have in how I walk my path even at this stage of my life.

Also, on Mother's Day 2021, after having navigated a year in the storm of COVID-19, coupled with the gravitation pull George Floyd's murder had on our moral compass as individuals and a nation, I am moved by Black mothers who continue to stand out among those leading this 21st century movement for justice, equity, and a reimagining of local policing—the mothers of those killed by representatives of the very system we are working to change.

Somewhere I read how as youth, we live for ourselves; in our middle years, we live for our children; and in our later years, we have an unwritten higher purpose, to "live for the world." These mothers are demonstrating what it means to live for the world.

Each appears to manifest a sense of proprietorship in seeking justice for their own child, yet, what we also bear witness to is their sense of higher purpose, a broader responsibility to work for change on behalf of all Blacks and other minorities who suffer under the current system of policing. They advocate unyieldingly, for justice. But, even more than that, they reach out with open hearts to comfort others going through a similar loss.

There was something about George Floyd's calls for "mama" that awakened not only

mothers, but the sacred feminine in every compassionate human being. In response, people came together and put a stake in the ground, so to speak, marking, as a point of demarcation, this time in history where the arc of justice is being bent with fervor.

One mother, among many committed to this effort, is Gwen Carr. Carr's son, Eric Garner, died at the hands of a New York police officer on July 17, 2014, for allegedly selling loose cigarettes. Carr's son lost his life over loose cigarettes. In the case of George Floyd, it was an alleged counterfeit \$20 bill. Clear evidence in both cases, it does not take much for a Black man to be sentenced to death in this country.



Gwen Carr (source: commons.wikimedia.org)

I Can't Breathe

George Floyd's utterances of, "I can't breathe" hauntingly reminded Gwen Carr and the world of her own son's pleadings before his death, where he repeated, "I can't breathe," at least 11 times during the final moments of his life.

Six years after losing her own son, Gwen Carr, along with other Black mothers who have lost sons and daughters under similar circumstances, reached out to support the Floyd family.

Floyd's close-knit family, having lost its own matriarch just a couple of short years before his death, seemed to find comfort in the universal offering of mother-centered love, anchored in the hearts of Carr and the other Black mothers

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Meet Helen Williams: A 104 Year-Old Wonder

Earl Heath | Guest Contributor

Many of us marvel at people who live to be one hundred-years-old and in the coming days there will be a bundle of knowledge, joy and wisdom who will be 104.

She was born Helen Beatrice Cox on May 1st 1917 in Gibsland, Louisiana just outside of Shreveport. It's a small town best known for the Ambush Museum that got its name because that's where Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow were gunned down by more than 30 Southern lawmen. The actual spot is about a half mile from the home Helen grew up in.

Early Years

Helen was one of eight children with a drive for life and a will to help people that was hard to match. She has survived the Flu Pandemic of 1918 and Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020.

She has experienced the progression of America's growth from the horse and buggy to the Model-T-Ford into today's computerized age with social media, laptops and cellphones.

While young, Helen had a dream to attend college, however with seven other siblings, her parents could not afford to send her and that left Helen with very few options.

Relocation

She made a life changing choice and decided to marry the love of her life, Hardy J. Williams. In 1939 the couple migrated to Los Angeles where her first job was at Murphy's Ranch in Whittier, picking fruit.

They worked as a team and pooled together enough money to create Williams Market at 41st and Compton Ave, in South Los Angeles that later became Compton Refrigeration. It was one of the first Black-owned businesses in the area. All this occurred while Hardy worked in San Pedro at the Shipyard and later for the City of Los Angeles in maintenance.

A Mind for Business

Helen was adept at being creative and a major part of making the family property in Louisiana--that came into the family in 1880--profitable. Some 240 acres of it is leased

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Helen Beatrice Williams (Source: Walter Coleman)

for oil mineral rights and grazing; and some of it to the "Safari" Hunting Club, also known as Sportsman Paradise, in Arcadia, LA. Income from the land assisted with tax payments for several decades and that continues today.

The soon to be 104-year-old, created a strong family foundation for three boys, Hardy Jr., Jimmy, Don and one daughter, Sally Williams. She made sure they all attended college.

Sally went on to teach for forty-years in the Los Angeles Unified school District. Jimmy retired after years with L.A. City Recreation and Parks, Hardy became a high school football coach, and Don worked as a speech therapist.

Her most enjoyable days came after they all graduated from college.

Prominent Musicians

Helen has been a "God Force" and is presently the oldest living member of St. Paul's Baptist Church located at 49th and Main St. in Los Angeles. She used her wisdom and the gift of

giving to help so many.

Singer songwriter Billy Preston and sister Rodena Preston were members of St Paul's. Billy was a talented musician. In his youth, Preston also had overnight stays in her home. She mentored both Prestons on life-long lessons.

"What are you going to do with your music skills?" She would ask a young Billy. Preston's talents rose to prominence and at 16 years of age he went on to play with John, Paul, George and Ringo and became known as the "Fifth Beatle." He later went on to release more than 15 albums while Rodena went on to become Dr. Rodena Preston.

Blues great John Lee Hooker became a family friend and rented a trailer on the Williams' property. After spending weeks on the road he'd return to the comforts of home.

In the fifties and sixties Helen developed sound relationships with the businesses on historic Central Ave. in Los Angeles.

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Black California: A Year into COVID-19 – Vaccines, Variants, Efficacy and Equity



Phyllis Kimber Wilcox | Contributor

The COVID-19 crisis has left many grappling with the day-to-day problems this new reality has left us with.

This includes everything from where and how to educate and protect our children, to how to do the same for ourselves, our neighbors, and our elders. Such challenges press against us daily in addition to the necessity of self-care, including how to come to grips with personal loss and grief.

All these things complicate further the need to stay up to date with the status of vaccines, their effectiveness, and how protective they are against new and emerging strains of current disease. This article is a quick reference guide to what is presently known about these topics. While this report is not meant to be exhaustive, it is meant to give a snapshot of what is acknowledged about vaccine efficacy and equity to date.

The Rundown

There are three vaccines authorized by the FDA under a process known as the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Details of these vaccines, in side-to-side comparison, are listed by manufacturer in the sidecar to this

report.

The three vaccines, Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, have different properties making the tracking of their side effects and effectiveness more complex. As noted by Dr. Lauren Neeragaard of the University of California, San Francisco to the Associated Press, "Luckily, all these vaccines look like they're protecting us from severe disease." Pause Placed on Johnson & Johnson, and then Lifted.

On Tuesday April 13, 2021, the EUA Emergency Use Authorization for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine was temporarily paused over concerns that in a few cases, it caused blood clots in younger women. The pause was lifted on the use of the vaccine Friday April 23 after an analysis by the CDC determined the benefits outweigh the risk posed by the small possibility of blood clots. The manufacturer is adding a warning label to the vaccine for women 50 years of age and below. The issue may get more complicated going forward because on April 26, 2021 the first case of blood clots in a male was reported by University of San Francisco.

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classifieds&publicnotices

PUBLIC NOTICES

The 2021-22 Proposed Budget for the San Bernardino City Unified School District will be available for inspection from May 25, 2021 to June 7, 2021 at the San Bernardino City Unified School District, Board of Education Building, 777 N. F St., San Bernardino, CA 92410. Requests to view the proposed budget can be emailed to Janet.King@sbcusd.k12.ca.us to establish a teleconference meeting if the Board of Education Building remains closed.

The 2021-22 Proposed Budget Hearing for the San Bernardino City Unified School District will be held on June 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., at the San Bernardino City Unified School District, Board of Education Building, 777 N. F St., San Bernardino, CA 92410. The meeting will be held via teleconference which can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SanBdoCitySchools/>

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NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT and RECORD OF DECISION

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has announced that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Record of Decision (ROD) has been approved based upon results of a Final Environmental Assessment prepared in April 2021 for the proposed acre for acre land exchange project between the San Bernardino International Airport Authority (SBIAA) and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (SMBMI) at San Bernardino International Airport (SBD), San Bernardino, San Bernardino County, California.

The following project is addressed by the FONSI and ROD:

- The San Bernardino International Airport Authority would acquire 10,306 acres located along the south side of E. 3rd Street at Victoria Avenue along the northern Airport property boundary (Parcel D) for the purpose of controlling the primary access road to its general aviation and air cargo areas.

- The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians would acquire 10,306 acres located north of "W" Street (Parcel A).

The FAA's Federal action for this project is approval of the SBIAA request to release the SBIAA from its obligations to use certain SBIAA property for aviation purposes and to authorize the Proposed Action.

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations § 1508.25(a)(3), the Final Environmental Assessment also considers a proposed Similar Action. The SMBMI is currently considering a site-specific development plan for the new property in conjunction with approximately 37 acres of adjacent land already owned by SMBMI. The FONSI/ROD indicates that the proposed land exchange project is consistent with existing environmental policies and objectives as set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in that it will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The FONSI/ROD states the FAA has no statutory or regulatory approval authority on the proposed Similar Action by the SMBMI.

Copies of the The Final EA and FONSI/ROD are available for public inspection at:

- San Bernardino International Airport Authority Administration Offices, 1601 East 3rd Street, San Bernardino, California 92408

- Norman F. Feldheim Public Library, 555 W 6th Street, San Bernardino, California 92410

The FONSI and ROD may be viewed at FAA's website: https://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/records_decision/

The Final Environmental Assessment and the FONSI and ROD may also be viewed at the San Bernardino International Airport Authority's website: <http://www.sbiaa.org>. 5/13, 5/20/21 CNS-3467401#

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SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 777 North "F" Street San Bernardino, CA 92410 Request for Proposal, RFP 20-21

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Bernardino City Unified School District of San Bernardino County, State of California, acting through its Governing Board, hereafter referred to as the "District", is soliciting electronic proposal submittals through its ProcureNow e-Procurement web portal in response to RFP No. 20-21, COVID-19 Professional Health Services Support for Screening, Testing, Contact Tracing and Lab Processing Services. Proposals must be submitted electronically up to but not later than Friday, May 21, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., at <https://sbcusd.com/bidpostings>.

Bidders who are desirous of securing a copy of the RFP documents may do so by logging into the District's website at: <https://sbcusd.com/bidpostings>. Proposal responses must conform and be responsive in accordance with the RFP Documents posted through the District's "ProcureNow" website portal.

Contract award is contingent upon availability of funds. Local, Minority, Small Disadvantaged and Disabled Veterans Businesses are encouraged to respond. The District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, and to accept or reject any item, to withdraw a line item or entire Proposal, and to waive any irregularities or informalities in the RFP document(s). The District may award any, all, or none of this RFP.

By: Debra Love, Director
Purchasing & Warehouse

Publication: May 13, 2021
Request for Clarification: May 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
Virtual Bid Opening: May 21, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.
5/13/21
CNS-3467902#

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LEGAL NOTICE INFORMAL BIDDER LIST & PREQUALIFICATION (CUPCCAA) NOTICE INVITING INTERESTED

CONTRACTORS FOR THE 2021 CONTRACTORS BID LIST FOR SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Bernardino City Unified School District's Board of Education adopted a resolution electing to become subject to the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act ("CUPCCAA"), Public Contract Code sections 22000 et seq. Accordingly, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Contract Code section 22034 and the criteria promulgated by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission, contractors interested in bidding on District public works projects with an estimated cost of \$200,000 or less are required to complete and submit the Informal Bidding Questionnaire in order to be placed on the District's Informal Bidding Contractors List in effect from May 13, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The District may at its sole discretion require financial statements to be submitted at the time of informal bidding. All trade categories are subject to Informal Bidding Procedures.

Application must be resubmitted each year to be included on the following year's list even if your company has submitted an application in prior years. The District will publish Notices inviting interested contractors to apply to be added to the Informal Bid List annually on November 1 of each calendar year. Contractors that are interested in being on the 2021 Informal Bidding Contractors List are required to have a current license and are subject to verification through the Contractors State License Board. Additionally, pursuant to SB 854, no contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid or awarded a contract for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) per California Labor Code 1725.5.

If interested in being placed on the District's 2021 Informal Bidding Contractors List, please complete the District's Informal Bidding Questionnaire viewable and downloadable at the District's Purchasing website. The District is requesting Applications to be submitted by Friday, May 14, 2021; however applications may be submitted at any time to be on the current list. To be considered for an informal bidding contract award, contractors must be listed as an approved CUPCCAA contractor at least 10 days prior to the bid posting. Application form: https://sbcusd.com/district_offices/business_services_division/Purchasing/bids_and_r_f_ps

NOTE: This registration process is for the purpose of being notified of construction related bid opportunities according to your license classification. The registration process is not a prequalification process.

Prequalification Process

Pre-qualification applications for formally bid contracts require submission of a questionnaire, supporting documents, and financial statements. To become prequalified, contractors must follow the District's prequalification process viewable and downloadable by accessing the following link: <https://sbcusdfacilities.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Prequalification-Application-OCT-2020-2.pdf>

(1) As of January 1, 2014, California

Assembly Bill AB 2031, all General Contractors and Subcontractors are required to be prequalified on all Bond Construction Contracts. https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2031#:~:text=Assembly%20Bill%20No.,by%20Governor%20September%2019%2C%202018. (2) Subject to the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act ("CUPCCAA") all contracts \$1 Million or greater are required to follow the prequalification process.

Note: The registration process to be placed on the Informal Bidder Contractors List and the Prequalification Application process are not interchangeable. 5/13/21 CNS-3467923#

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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO NOTICE FOR "Request for Proposal" RFP #PC1223 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Case Management Services

HACSB CONTACT PERSON:
Angie Lardapide
Procurement Department
Housing Authority of San Bernardino
715 E. Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408
procurement@hacsb.com

HOW TO OBTAIN BID DOCS:
1. Access www.hacsb.com
2. Click onto the "Do Business With Us" tab
3. Click onto Bid #PC1223 to view and download Request for Proposal

PROPOSAL SUBMITAL RETURN:
PlanetBids eBidding website. Follow link on www.hacsb.com under "Do Business With Us"

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: June 4, 2021 @ 2 PM
5/13/21
CNS-3468567#

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NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVMV2100707

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: MARCELA DOMINGUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: MARCELA DOMINGUEZ to JACQUELINE MARCELA DOMINGUEZ VALLE. 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 the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the may grant the petition without a hearing. Notice of Hearing: Date: 05/27/21 Time: 1:30 PM Dept: MV2. The address of the court is: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST, 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: 3/24/2021 ERIC V. ISAAC, Judge of the Superior Court
p. 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13/2021

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
SHIELD YOURSELF
29350 Coral Island Court
Menifee, California, 92585
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
WHY CC LLC
29350 Coral Island Court
Menifee, California, 92585
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
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. Yolanda D. Collier, Managing Member
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 04/13/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202104601
p. 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13/2021

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

SOWING OUR LIBERATION
5074 Crestomore Rd
Riverside, CA 92509
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
310 E. Mills Drive
Anaheim, CA 92805
Ingrid Yunaira Salazar Rubio
24023 W. La Salle Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326
Autumn Joelle Yanez-Jacobo
3479 Hillhurst Drive

San Bernardino, CA 92405
Tracy Katsuko Walters
310 E. Mills Drive
Anaheim, CA 92805
This business is conducted by: General Partnership
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. Ingrid Y. Salazar Rubio, General Partner

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 03/26/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202103834
p. 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13/2021

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

LADIES OF STATUS
25981 Calle Fuego
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
LEONEICA PERCIE JONES
25981 Calle Fuego
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
This business is conducted by: Individual

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. Leoneica P. Jones
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 04/01/2021
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in

Victorville: City Council Critics Suspect Political Power Maneuvers

Gail Fry | Contributor

Information published on the City of Victorville's website and reviewed by The Voice/Black Voice News, revealed the city's Measure P, a general one-cent increase sales tax approved by voters during the November 3, 2020, election took effect April 1, and is expected to add \$15 million annually to expand essential services and increase safety for Victorville's growing population.

Alleged Political Maneuvers

On March 2, the Victorville City Council removed City Councilmember Rita Ramirez (Ramirez), a Democrat, after determining she had not lived in the City of Victorville for more than six months and on August 17, 2020, the City of Victorville reported suspected fraud to the California Employment Development Department as to an unemployment claim made by Councilmember Blanca Gomez (Gomez), also a Democrat.

Ramirez

Rita Ramirez, a diabetic, explained from early January 2019, until present, she suffered a series of serious health issues leading to the amputation of her left foot, serious issues with her right foot and a mild heart attack. As a result, she has experienced multiple hospital stays, stints at physical rehabilitation centers, and is now confined to a wheelchair.

After the COVID pandemic hit in March of 2020, at the advice of her doctors, Ramirez was informed she needed to be isolated from other people because of the open wound on her left leg.

To isolate and live in housing that would accommodate her wheelchair, Ramirez decided to live in a house she owns in 29 Palms, instead of returning to Victorville.

During March 2020, Ramirez confirmed she informed Mayor Gloria Garcia that under doctor's orders she was to remain isolated during her rehabilitation and she would be staying in her 29 Palms house. Ramirez shared, by July of 2020, her left leg had healed.

Subsequently, she started having similar problems with her right foot leading to two



Victorville City Hall and council chamber

surgeries, hospital stays, and a mild heart attack. By December of 2020, the doctors were considering amputating her right foot but were able to perform two surgeries to save it.

On January 7, 2021, Ramirez informed the city manager, the city clerk and texted the mayor to inform them that she was in the hospital and unable to participate in the city council meetings as no one was allowed into the hospital, which would be required to set up the zoom meeting, as well as the hospital's poor internet reception. By February 2021, Ramirez was able to return to the 29 Palms house to recover. Mid-February 2021, Ramirez contacted the city manager and explained that she was bedridden and physically unable to participate in the city council meeting. The next meeting, Ramirez learned she was ousted by her peers from the city council based on her non-attendance for 60-days. They claimed her absence was unexcused even though she had been hospitalized.

Ramirez explained how she officially rented a house in the City of Victorville as her legal residence until the end of February 2021. Prior to her health problems, Ramirez advised she had made several offers to purchase a home in Victorville and was unable to finalize a purchase due to her health issues.

She plans to move back to Victorville and run for re-election as soon as her foot heals. She enjoys and feels welcome in the community and

made promises to her constituents she intends to keep. "I lost my foot, but I did not lose my mind," Ramirez said, reasoning and declaring "I am not willing to give up my life because I am now disabled."

On March 30, local businessman and Victor Valley Community College District Trustee Joseph Brady (Brady), a Republican, published an opinion piece in the Daily Press urging the Victorville City Council to appoint former Planning Commissioner/former Mayor Ryan McEachron, a Republican to replace Ramirez.

Brady reasoned Victorville cannot waste the time needed for a special election nor afford the cost he estimates to be \$850,000 or be subjected to a four-member City Council that can result in tie votes.

McEachron lost his long-term 10-year position on the city council in November 2016, when now councilmember Gomez upset his long reign of power.

Since Gomez's surprising win over McEachron, she's been subjected to critical actions from her fellow city councilmembers, including but not limited to a censure in March 2017, for attending a Rialto City Council Meeting where sanctuary cities were being discussed; a failed recall effort; a rebuke for her behavior at a council meeting; removal from a council meeting for reading a statement; as well as formal council disapproval

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Black Cemeteries are Reflection of Deep Segregation History

Christine Fernando | Associated Press

As a child, Linda Davis and her mother broke clay pots over the gravesites of their ancestors, allowing the flowers in them to take root.

When she returned to Brooklyn Cemetery in Athens, Georgia, decades later in 2009, her grandparents' temporary grave markers were lost, and shrubs and overgrowth blanketed the site. But it still felt like home to Davis, and she knew then it was up to her to restore the cemetery.

"When I walk through the cemetery, it's like walking down the old streets of my community," she said.

Scattered Across the Country

Similar Black cemeteries are scattered throughout the United States, telling the story of the country's deep past of cemetery segregation. As these burial grounds for the dead mirrored the racial divisions of the living, Black communities organized to defend the dignity of their deceased and oppose racist cemetery policies.

Blacks Built Cemeteries of Their Own

Many Black Americans excluded from White-owned cemeteries built their own burial spaces, and their descendants are working to preserve the grounds. Racism still haunts these cemeteries, though, and many are at risk of being lost and lack the support other cemeteries have received.

Tony Burroughs, CEO of Chicago's Center for Black Genealogy, began tracing
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You can reduce your energy costs if you rely on medical equipment at home.

If you use certain electrically powered medical devices at home, the Medical Baseline Program:

- Provides more electricity at the lowest available rate
- Has no income eligibility requirement
- Makes it simpler to qualify if you apply before June 30, 2021

In addition you can sign up for Outage Alerts to help you be better prepared for emergencies and Public Safety Power Shutoffs.

To find out if you qualify, visit sce.com/MedicalBaseline or call 1-800-655-4555.



Pushing Through the Pandemic: How a Local Domestic Violence Agency Stayed True to Its Mission



Phyllis Kimber Wilcox | Contributor

It has been called a “pandemic within the pandemic,” a pre-existing cycle of domestic violence swept up in the unforgiving whirlwind of COVID-19.

Last year, the coronavirus collided full speed into local communities trapping victims in place with their abusers. Uncertainty of the previously unknown illness created untenable conditions for women, children, and men, who were suddenly untethered from their lifelines of support in the outside world.

Surviving the COVID-19 challenges of 2020 was daunting for those who managed to do so under the best of circumstances, but for victims of domestic violence and those who support them, the challenges were at times terrifying.

What was their journey? How did they weather the crosswinds of potential catastrophe? Who provided anchors of support? How were victims able to reach out for assistance, and how were resources in the community able to reach back?

For the remainder of 2021, the Black Voice News will explore the facets of domestic violence in hopes of raising awareness of this important issue and in the process, help create an impetus for expanded services and support thereby helping to ensure that in the future no victim will ever feel trapped and alone without ready access to assistance

Black Voice News/VOICE is producing a series of articles on domestic violence in collaboration with California Black Media and the Blue Shield of California Foundation. It explores how individuals, families and organizations in our community can seek creative solutions to work through the host of problems that stem from intimate partner violence.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, domestic violence support organizations in Riverside County scrambled to adjust how they provided services to their clients. The pandemic presented new challenges that forced the organizations to find creative ways to live up

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to their missions and keep offering critical resources to their clients whose lives depend on them.

By the time the Coronavirus crisis hit the United State in 2020, it had been building like a giant wave at sea spotted from a distant shore.

Then, in January 2020, the storm hit. The world heard about a new coronavirus variant in Wuhan, China causing a “strange” pneumonia and a great deal of concern. By the end of January the first cases of the virus were reported in the United States and economies around the country and across our state shuttered to prioritize keeping people safe. .

Even in those early days, there was debate about how the country would be impacted by the disease. More than a year later, we find ourselves still measuring the costs as we push our way out of an unprecedented pandemic that has left significant suffering and an alarming death toll in its wake.

Domestic Violence: Riverside’s First, First Responders

Long before COVID-19 crashed onto the shores of the United States and changed life as we knew it in Riverside County, there was a precursor to the most well-known local domestic violence support organizations in our community. Called the Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV), the organization provides a path of healing to men, women and children impacted by domestic violence.

It began its mission in 1977 as an informal group of citizens concerned about the lack of domestic violence services in the area, meeting to talk about and create what was needed. From those first days of advocacy and hard work they began to build a web of support for what was then a silent, under-discussed problem in our community.

Those civic-minded residents helped advocate for temporary restraining orders for victims of domestic violence and in 1978, the group also helped advocate for SB 91, legislation which created the first six domestic violence shelters in the state. The same year--with a grant from the state--they launched the first 24-hour crisis hotline, and opened Horizon House,



(source www.domesticshelters.org)

the first domestic violence shelter in Riverside.

From these beginnings, ADV has grown to become an indispensable provider of services, training and information to the community and the state. The organization is led by Florence White, Chief Executive Officer of ADV, who spoke with the IE Voice and Black Voice News about the challenges to the organization brought about by COVID-19.

"When it first hit, no one knew what it was. It was just an emergency. I think the entire nation was that way. Of course, the numbers went up

tremendously," stated White.

According to White, the group experienced a near 30% increase in calls. The requests for restraining orders also increased as did episodes of violence.

At that point, explained White, "Everything was just pretty much put on hold because no one knew what to do. Our normal process of going out on calls and assisting people directly--all of that shifted."

For most of March through much of May 2020, White continued, "We were pivoting our

services to become...or looking at what we were going to become. We didn't really know at the beginning."

White explained how she was looking at different things and trying to decide, "What we were going to do. What were the courts going to do? It was kind of a big haze while we figured out the urgency of everything."

A Sense of Urgency

In discussing the immediacy of the need to change the way the organization offered services in light of its primary mandate which is safety, White stressed by the time May rolled around, "We just had to play it by ear. We still had to move because we had so many clients in therapy and needed to remain in therapy, who were regressing."

White and the ADV team could not let their clients go backwards. "Whatever they were dealing with, PTSD, or whatever cognitive disorders they had, we had to turn around and figure out how to get them back to where they were and then still move them forward in light of this issue."

White described it as "a real ping pong game" when it came to mental health and safety. "We had women who were in the house with their batterers." The urgent question for White, as she explained, was "What'll I do now?"

Safety is the primary concern for the clients of ADV, the organization's staffers say, and it has relationships with service providers all over the area as well, including the sheriff's department and the Department of Aging.

According to White no one quite knew what to do. Everyone was being cautious, including the police and the courts were shut down. This meant even the ability to get temporary restraining orders was made complicated.

Everything was up in the air," she acknowledged.

The Big Shift

Like many agencies, businesses and nonprofits during the pandemic, ADV has shifted to offering services digitally.

White explained, "We realized we were in a different norm, we were going to have to shift...



"When it first hit, no one knew what it was. It was just an emergency. I think the entire nation was that way."

- Florence White

Chief Executive Officer of Alternatives to Domestic Violence

everything had to shift. We had to scale up our services for safety. For COVID issues---we had to start providing preliminary checks for COVID symptoms. We couldn't have everybody in the same place, it was a huge undertaking." During the surge of activity, in this crucial period, twenty percent of the calls came from the Black community.

"What we started doing, as we are still doing, is having services on Zoom. So, everything just went on a technology platform" said White.

Going digital isn't as easy as it seems. Especially with a group of underserved, at risk individuals. Many clients didn't have the requisite technology or skills to make the switch to online service administration, but ADV stepped in to help.

White continued, "Then, we had to work through those who had devices and those who

didn't. Did they know how to use the devices in these ways? We went through training...by phone. Everyone knows how to use the telephone. We provided telephones. We provided tablets. That was something we scaled up for and we just taught them how to use it, and it worked out. We lost very few people through the transition."

The staff at ADV worked hard during the transition. Getting very little sleep until the new process was up and running. When speaking of those days White reminisced, "Until we stabilized, some of us worked day and night. We were first responders. Though not of the same magnitude as hospitals, White clarified. "But, we were essential workers."

The Abusers

ADV's mission to keep people safe required them to also provide counseling services to abusers as well as victims using the new technology.

"Our issue is safety, that's our primary concern. From a safety perspective White noted, "If we continue to instill the idea of being safe in whatever environment you're in, even if your batterer is in your home, we had to adopt conversations with both the batterer and the victim."

"We can't just say we're going to just talk to the victims when he or she is standing over them with an ax."

According to White, digital conferencing enabled ADV to provide therapy for both victims and abusers at the same time, all of this in the midst of crisis situations. This occurred frequently during the period as reflected in the number of temporary restraining orders (TRO) requested which went up 60% according to White. Of those, only 20% were granted. As a result, ADV had to stand in the gap.

Getting Back to Normal

These days, the numbers have declined and stabilized. White believes it's because people get used to situations and have adapted to a new normal.

The crisis has brought surprises as well as trauma and offered a glimpse into an unexpected strength, endurance and compassion:

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IN THE NEWS

Victorville: City Council, continued from page 7

over allegations she harassed city employees and violated city and state codes.

On December 21, 2020, Gomez filed a complaint in federal court alleging civil rights violations, defamation, intentional infliction of emotional distress and false arrest against the City of Victorville, its city manager, several councilmembers, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and numerous other individuals. The lawsuit is pending.

Blanca Gomez

The latest of actions taken by Victorville City Council and directed at Councilmember Gomez involves the appeal of Gomez's award of benefits for 2020 as a "gig-worker" under California's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program (PUA).

An official council memorandum dated August 5, 2020, stated Gomez, "has never been an employee of the City of Victorville."

Gomez explained she works multiple jobs, is considered a "gig-worker" and applied for benefits under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), a program geared toward assisting those impacted by the pandemic and individuals that do not normally qualify for unemployment. Gomez claimed she lost income due to the pandemic from her other jobs outside her work for the City of Victorville.

A gig worker is an independent contractor or a person who is hired for contractual work that is usually for projects or for short-time periods.

Questionable Decision

In a decision mailed March 2, 2021, the Employment Development Department's (EDD) Administrative Law Judge Stephen H. Tyler (Tyler) explained "The issue in this case is whether remuneration payable to an individual constitutes wages for personal services payable to an employee."

Tyler cited California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1279(2)(c) which states, "For the purpose of this section 'wages' includes any and all compensation for personal services whether performed as an employee or as an independent contractor (sic) but does not include any payments, regardless of their



Leslie Irving



Elizabeth Becerra



Debra Jones

Former City Councilmember Rita Ramirez learned she was ousted from the Victorville City Council by her peers (Councilmembers L to R: Leslie Irving, Elizabeth Becerra, and Debra Jones) based on her non-attendance for 60-days. They claimed her absence was unexcused even though she had been hospitalized and kept the city apprised of her health status.

designation, made by a city of this state to an elected official thereof as an incident to public office ..."

"The claimant's application indicated that she has ceased working, which is not the case," Tyler claimed adding, "Benefits were received as a result of this misrepresentation." Tyler also noted that no unemployment or disability taxes were withheld, making Gomez "ineligible for benefits."

Tyler affirmed the City of Victorville could "consider investigating the claim (sic) as being fraudulent." Further noting Gomez' earnings are not considered wages because she is an elected official finding Gomez was "disqualified for benefits" reversing a prior EDD decision in Gomez's favor.

Conflicting Decisions

According to documents obtained by The Voice/Black Voice News, after a prior EDD investigation regarding Gomez' unemployment claim for benefits in 2019—the agency determined her "wages have been reported correctly" as to the wages "reported by employer." The employer shown in the documents approved by EDD was the "City of Victorville."

Definition of "Employee"

In researching whether a city councilmember is an employee or an independent contractor under California law, according to 97 Ops.Cal. Atty.Gen. 103, "The employment relationship between a city council member and the city is contractual, and the elements of compensation and benefits for such an office become contractually vested upon acceptance of employment."

In response to questions posed to the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), FPPC Communications Director Jay Wierenga stated, "What I can say is city councilmembers (unless it's an appointment through normal vacancy type process) are elected by the public, are then elected officials, and thus it's commonly understood they are public employees, either part-time or full-time depending on the jurisdiction. I am not aware of any case where city councilmembers are 'independent contractors.'"

In response to an increase of gig-workers, the California Legislature passed and the Governor signed AB5, a law changing the rules used to

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Black Cemeteries, continued from page 8

his family's ancestry in 1975, which led him to a cemetery in suburban Hillside, where he found the remains of his grandparents, great-uncles, great-aunts and great-great-grandparents.

"I'm in the process of telling their story, because they can no longer tell their story," Burroughs said.

"Blacks have had to fight to get equal rights in every facet of life, including death," he added.

In Chicago, wealthy White residents were laid to rest beside towering monuments in manicured lawns while people of color and low-income residents were buried in potter's fields soaked with quicklime and with only wooden paddles identifying their locations.

"There are few areas of life that bigotry and discrimination do not touch," said Michael Rosenow, associate professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas. "Even cemeteries became battlegrounds for dignity."

Black communities responded to being barred from White cemeteries or charged more "by drawing on a long history of Black self-help and community organizing," Rosenow said. In Chicago, they protested in the Illinois Legislature. The fight continued in the courts when in 1912 John Gaskill sued Forest Home Cemetery for refusing to bury his wife because of her race.

Black people weren't the only ones excluded from White cemeteries or who organized to protect the dignity of their dead. The Chinese Cemetery of Los Angeles was established by a mutual aid group in 1922 as a burial ground for Chinese Americans then barred from buying burial plots. Countless Native American tribes have mounted decadeslong efforts to reclaim and rebury their ancestors' remains.

Many groups built their own cemeteries as "a form of resistance," Rosenow said. But without the same generational wealth and access to resources, Black cemeteries were at a disadvantage.

The effects of chronic underfunding are perhaps most visible at the long-abandoned Mount Forest Cemetery in Thornton, Illinois, where unkempt trees overhang a few crooked headstones peeking up from the grass. In some spots, the ground sinks slightly, marking where a body may lay.

When Black Cemeteries are Abandoned

Nadia Orton, a genealogist and family historian who has visited hundreds of cemeteries, said it frustrates her that people assume Black communities are always to blame when their cemeteries are abandoned or neglected.

"They're trying," she said. "They just haven't had



Replacement gravestone for Civil War veteran in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Portsmouth, Virginia | Credit: Nadia Orton

the help, and they don't have the resources." She said city leaders are often responsible for the neglect of Black cemeteries or the bulldozing of them to make way for development projects. The cemeteries are sometimes the last remnants of Black communities that have been gutted by projects or gentrified, she said.

In many cases, the cemeteries left behind are hidden. A Tallahassee, Florida, golf course lays atop a burial space for slaves. A Black church cemetery has been paved over in Williamsburg, Virginia. The University of Pennsylvania campus sits on top of a 19th century Black cemetery. Bone fragments were found at the 126th Metropolitan Transportation Authority bus depot in East Harlem, New York, which also was once a Black burial ground.

"The examples are endless," Orton said.

Orton's great-great-great-grandfather founded a community near Suffolk, Virginia, the city where Orton lives. A hotel parking lot sits where a cemetery once did.

"Am I standing on them now?" Orton asked about her ancestors as she looked at her feet.

Virginia Rep. A. Donald McEachin has been fighting for legislation to better protect Black burial spaces after noticing in the 1990s how much money was allocated to preserving Confederate graves. McEachin helped introduce the African-American Burial Grounds Network Act in 2018. If the bill passes, it would create a nationwide database of historic

Black burial grounds, help produce educational materials for the spaces, and make grants available for further research at the sites.

Restoration Efforts

Organizations like African American Heritage Preservation Foundation Inc. are also supporting grassroots groups in preserving cemeteries.

"A lot of our history has not been uncovered or told," said founder Renee Ingram. "And so this is a way of educating ... the next generation."

But much of the preservation work still begins on the ground.

When Linda Davis decided to restore the Athens, Georgia, cemetery, she began the delicate, painstaking work of clearing debris and overgrowth. She kept remnants of vases, plates and urns in place.

"Even when it was in its worst disrepair, you could always find a grave that was being tended to, a couple fresh flowers, some kind of sign someone was still watching and caring," she said.

Davis plans to pave paths, build a fence and restore broken headstones with support from local fundraisers and donations. She feels she's carrying on the legacy of her ancestors and Black community organizers who opposed cemetery segregation and built these cemeteries.

"I believe I am walking in the spirit of the people who wanted a better resting place for their community," Davis said.

Black California, continued from page 5

The President's Plan

President Biden set an ambitious goal of distributing one hundred million vaccinations in his first one hundred days. The President has surpassed his vaccine distribution target by delivering two hundred million vaccinations before his first one hundred days in office. He stated that more than half of adults have received "at least one shot." Despite this good news there are some worrisome signs.

New Strains

There are new, emerging strains or variants of the virus causing concerns about the efficacy of the vaccines making the decision of whether to get the vaccine even more difficult for some.

The Federal Level

Multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been identified globally during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The CDC is currently monitoring five COVID-19 variants of concern (VOC's): B.1.1.7, B.1.351, P.1, B.1.427, and B.1.429. All come with increased worries over whether they can be spread more easily and whether the vaccines will be as effective against them. The CDC stated recently they do not know how far the variants have spread.

According to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), these genetic mutations are expected, and while some emerge and then disappear, others persist or become common. Most variants do not have a meaningful impact. However, public health officials become concerned about a variant when it affects COVID-19 transmission, severity, testing, treatment or vaccine effectiveness. Visit the CDPH website for more information on the variants currently being monitored in California.

The variants, which most concern the CDC, also concern CDPH. Although the newest strains are all worrisome, the British variant B.1.1.7, is the most dominant variant where it is seen and the emerging California double mutation also bears keeping track of.

California's Double Mutation

The E484Q and L4524R variant, not seen together before, began in India. It is called a double mutation because the variant is made up of two previous mutations seen in other variants. There is evidence the double mutation is not recognized by antibodies thus reducing the effectiveness of current vaccines. As a result, it is perhaps more easily transmissible and vaccine resistant.

United Kingdom (British) Variant

The B117 variant is the most dominant strain where it appears. It is also the dominant strain here in the United States despite nearly 27.5 percent of the nation's population being fully vaccinated as of April 23, 2021.

South African Variant

According to several recent reports the B.1.351 variant carries a mutation called N501Y. This mutation causes the variant to be more



The Black community has been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. With that grim reality in mind, California has set aside forty percent of its vaccine allotment for underserved communities.

contagious. The variant also includes another mutation called E484K that may help the virus dodge a person's immune system, possibly affecting how well the coronavirus vaccines work.

State of California

The CDPH was asked if it is keeping track of the variants and how they affect the population by race? If so, what are those numbers for the Black community? The department responded, "CDPH is working to connect variant data with case data. At this point, we do not yet have information on how variants affect the population by race."

Kids and COVID-19

While Pfizer's Biontech has pronounced their vaccine "100 percent effective and safe in children as young as twelve," use of the vaccine for this age group is just beginning to be tested on a wider basis.

Tampa Florida children as young as sixteen can now get the vaccine and on April 15th, 2021 California teens sixteen-years-old and older were also allowed access to the vaccine.

Except where expressly allowed, vaccines are still not available for children sixteen-years-old and younger. Despite Pfizer's Biontech claim to be safe in children as young as twelve, FDA approval is just beginning to be rolled out for these age groups in places like Tampa, Florida and California.

Although there were initial concerns about child to child and child to adult transmission rates, transmission data suggests most adults who get COVID-19, get it from adults who are not following safety guidelines or practices.

An interesting report by NBC on April 26 however highlighted a case in Montgomery County Pennsylvania where eight second grade children

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public notices

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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202104222
p. 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2021

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

**LASHEDBYLAINE
BEAUTY BAR & SPA
LUXURY LAINE PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT**
1090 N. Orange St, Apt 4
Riverside, CA 92501
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Kayshia Elaine Thompson
1090 N. Orange St, Apt 4
Riverside, CA 92501

This business is conducted by: Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2019

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. Kayshia Elaine Thompson

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 04/01/2021

I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202104217
p. 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2021

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

DIVINITY TEMP AGENCY
25345 Woodcreek Court
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Patricia Monita Bundy

**25345 Woodcreek Court
Moreno Valley, CA 92553**

This business is conducted by: Individual 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. Patricia Monita Bundy

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 04/14/2021

I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202104705
p. 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27/2021

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

CREATED TO WORSHIP AND DESIGN
977 Summit View Ct
Corona, CA 92882
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Jessica Rachel Martinez
977 Summit View Ct
Corona, CA 92882

This business is conducted by: Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January 1, 2021

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. Jessica Rachel Martinez

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 04/19/2021

I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202104893
p. 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27/2021

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

BETTER TOGETHER BAKERY
3036 David Street
Riverside, CA 92506
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Adelante Career Consulting LLC
3036 David Street
Riverside, CA 92506
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company 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. Rebecca Ramirez, Member

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 04/27/2021

I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202105198
p. 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27/2021

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

SOCALWHOLESALE
21500 Via Liago
Lake Matthews, CA 92570
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
SCW, INC.
21500 Via Liago
Lake Matthews, CA 92570
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

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to take paid time off work for COVID-19 related reasons.

COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave is now available for workplaces with 26 or more employees and is just one of many leave rights for workers in California. If you or a family member are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19, supplemental paid sick leave can cover:

- Up to 80 hours of leave in addition to permanent paid sick leave
- Care for yourself or a family member with COVID-19
- Getting tested, vaccinated or recovering from vaccine side effects

Ask your employer what rights are available to you.

Learn more at saferatwork.ca.gov



Victorville: City Council, continued from page 12

determine whether workers are employees or independent contractors in the state. As a result, many independent contractors would be reclassified as employees and be entitled to benefits. The new law went into effect on January 1, 2020.

California Labor Code

California Labor Code Section 3351, states “Employee” means every person in the service of an employer under any appointment or contract of hire or apprenticeship, express or implied, oral or written, whether lawfully or unlawfully employed, and includes. . . (b) All elected and appointed paid public officers.”

Gomez said she listed all her other jobs on the application for benefits under PUA, which qualified her for the benefits under this program. She also reported her earnings from the City of Victorville on the application and never claimed she was laid off by the city.

She recalls a telephone conversation with an EDD employee where she informed the agency of all her income from other jobs; was advised the department would take all her information and convert it to a regular unemployment application. Gomez informed the EDD employee she did not qualify for regular unemployment and was correctly reporting all her income.

When the City of Victorville received a report of wages and a claim for unemployment benefits from the Unemployment Department, according to Gomez, city officials created a narrative that there was fraud based on the documentation it received. Gomez recalled receiving an accusatory phone call from the city manager, and her unemployment claim was also discussed during city meetings.

While Gomez remains on the Victorville City Council, her future appears uncertain after the city posted a press release on March 10, announcing, “Judge Rules Council Member Blanca Gomez May Be Investigated for Unemployment Fraud.” It further stated Gomez falsely claimed a break in service and pay in order to receive unemployment benefits while continuing to receive monthly stipends from the city. The judge’s decision is pending on appeal.

Council Stalled

Since Ramirez’ removal from the council, it has been unable to reach a majority decision on whether to appoint Ramirez’s replacement or hold a special election and allow the voters to elect a new city councilmember. On Tuesday, April 6 the city council, in a three to one vote (with Gomez voting no), appointed four members of its oversight committee for Measure P. Appointed to its oversight committee were Michael Krause (education), Mark Creffield (chamber of commerce), Matthew

continued on page 17



City of Victorville Councilmember Blanca Gomez (source: victorville.ca.gov)

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. Patrick Madore, CEO
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 04/13/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202104608
p. 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27/2021

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
PIVOT DESIGN EVENTS & PHOTOGRAPHY
30296 Lamplighter Lane
Menifee, California 92584
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PO BOX 2396
Menifee, CA 92586
Sierra Lashonda Glass
30296 Lamplighter Lane
Menifee, California 92584
This business is conducted by: Individual
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. Vierra Glass
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 04/30/2021
I hereby 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

publicnotices

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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202105361
p. 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27, 6/3/2021

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
MBF PRINTING
14204 Flamingo Bay Ln
Moreno Valley, California, 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Bernard – Holmes Jr.
14204 Flamingo Bay Ln
Moreno Valley, California, 92553
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January, 2021
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. Bernard – Holmes Jr
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 05/05/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202105573
p. 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27, 6/3/2021

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
OJ'S CAFE
24578 Sunnymead Blvd, Suite C-1
14204 Flamingo Bay Ln
Moreno Valley, California, 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Olivia – Rivera
12991 Coralberry Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
This business is conducted by: Individual
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. Olivia Rivera
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 05/05/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202105558
p. 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27, 6/3/2021

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
LANCELOT'S PLUMBING
14088 Parkwood Ave
Eastvale, CA 92880
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Lance Anthony Braun
14088 Parkwood Ave
Eastvale, CA 92880
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/30/21
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. Lance Anthony Braun
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 05/06/2021
I hereby 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, County Clerk,
FILE NO. R-202105676
p. 5/13, 5/20/ 5/27, 6/3/2021

Meet Helen Williams, continued from page 4

Life After 60

The older she got, the more she did for herself and the community. She received her AA Degree from Southwest College and earned her B. S. Degree from Immaculate Heart University at the age of 62.

Helen continued her hobbies of gardening and cooking for years. She wrote poems and created words in rhythmic patterns. One such poem “The Wheels of Justice” caught the attention of Federal Judge the Honorable Spencer J Lett. He thought so much of the poem, it now hangs on his Chamber wall.

Her latest poetry book “From Birth to Longevity” published by Morris Publishing, is a compilation of her relationship experiences with family, community and church.

You can listen to her lifetime interview on Archives Story-Corps at the American Folklore Center in the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.

Today Helen lives in the View Park section of Los Angeles in the home she’s owned since 1961. Though she now has caretakers who assist her, she still composes Spoken Word Poems.

At 104 her reflection on life is with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; they are a constant reminder of what she once stated, “Being a giver is much better than being a taker- and you must trust in God.”

Black California, continued from page 14

and two fully vaccinated adults have contracted COVID. Authorities say there is no evidence of transmission beyond this class.

Herd Immunity

Herd Immunity is a term used to describe the tipping point at which the population will be sufficiently vaccinated to provide protection to the entire group without necessarily vaccinating everyone in that group.

Estimates of the percentage of individuals who must be vaccinated varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction in the United States, it is considered, and has been suggested, that between 70 and 90 percent of the population must be inoculated, before Herd Immunity will be reached.

Vaccine Equity

The State of California has created many initiatives to ensure the equitable distribution of vaccines. The Black community has been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. With that grim reality in mind, California has set aside forty percent of its vaccine allotment for underserved communities.

According to Dr Geoffrey Leung, Riverside County's new Public Health Officer, vaccination rates for the Black community are improving month over month and while the county lags behind its target, it remains ahead of the state.

According to Dr. Leung, the state’s efforts have enhanced local vaccine deployment. Now, with easy access to vaccinations and the increased capacity to provide appointments, “We are entering a new phase, a ‘middle phase.’ which feels different.”

He continued, “There are plenty of doses of vaccines and plenty of appointments. On the county's website residents can see which vaccines are being offered at the vaccination site of their choice. To make an appointment to be vaccinated in Riverside County visit <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

Trends

The current trends in reported cases and testing rates in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties show both indicators on the rise—more people are being tested and more disease is being found:

San Bernardino County

Black people make up just over nine percent of the population and currently account for 9.9 percent of the cases reported by the county. This is up two percent over last month. In addition, Blacks are 12.5 percent of those tested by the county this month. This reflects an eight percent increase over the previous month.

Riverside County

Although Black people in Riverside County comprise 6.5 percent of the population, they account for 9.1 percent of COVID-19 cases. This reflects a 3.2 percent increase over March. There is encouraging news however, more Blacks are being tested. They were 10.5 percent of those

tested in April, an increase of nine points over March.

According to Dr Leung, although the county only tests a small number of those with the virus for possible mutations, the double mutation has not been seen in Riverside county as of April 23. More testing and vaccine availability is good news for those who have been waiting their turn, said Leung. “However, all over the country we are beginning to see a slowdown in demand for the vaccine.”

Who is getting the vaccine and who is not? How are they making this important decision? All these topics and more will be discussed in the upcoming COVID-19 series. While this information is up to date at publication, the Black Voice News and IE Voice encourage you to stay informed of the latest information.

Phyllis Kimber-Wilcox is a student and history buff - a grandmother, a parent, a sister, an aunt and lover of people, animals, plants, and the planet.

Victorville: City Council, continued from page 16



Former City of Victorville Councilmember Rita Ramirez was removed from the city council for allegedly not living in the City of Victorville for six months. (source: victorville.ca.gov)

Pellouchoud (retail), and Margaret Cooker (senior citizen).

Three vacancies remain on the oversight committee including a representative from each of the following local groups, clergy, nonprofit social services provider, and youth and recreation.

Both Ramirez and Gomez are left wondering whether the \$15 million in new annual taxes and control of those funds has anything to do with the recent aggressive actions directed at them by the other councilmembers. In the meantime, Gomez awaits the city’s next move.



**WE ARE
ALL BETTER
TOGETHER**

**GET COVID
TESTED TODAY!**

Across the nation, the Black community is disproportionately affected by COVID-19 cases. In California, Black residents are the 4th most affected group by COVID-19, making up 4% of all California cases.

Historically known as advocates and providers, Black churches across the state are stepping up to bridge the gap between the government and free access to community-based testing. As leaders in the community, the church testing sites are exemplifying the way to properly engage the Black community in providing resources and reducing the spread of COVID-19.

AACEC-CAL.ORG/COVID19TESTING



A Mother's, continued from page 3

who stepped in with arms to enfold, shoulders to cry on and nurturing words of comfort.

Within two days of Floyd's murder, Gwen Carr reached out to his family.

"I just told them that, 'No matter what, you can depend on me if you need me,'" said Carr.

True to her word, Carr (and others) continued to give the Floyd family her love and support throughout the long year leading to the trial and on to its conclusion. It appears she formed a bond with the Floyd family certain to last a lifetime.

Although the officer who killed Carr's son was fired but never charged, she remains steadfast in her quest for fairness and justice in policing, and encourages other families to do the same. And, there are so many other families . . . of all races.

A recent Washington Post Report noted in the last year police shot and killed 973 people coming close to its annual average since 2015, of about 1,000 such deaths per year.

However, we must remember, these are not just numbers, each marks the life of a person and each person leaves family and friends to mourn their loss.

Word of Comfort and Caring

"You are not in this alone. We are here. We are here for you," said Carr during a recent interview as she sought to console others who share this experience. She, like other mothers who reach out offering support, stressed, "I reach out to you. I embrace you. I empower you. I hold you in my heart because I know what it is you're going through."

Black mothers like Carr; like Dominik Archibald whose son, Nathaniel Pickett, was murdered by a San Bernardino County sheriff deputy in 2015 who was never charged; and the hundreds of other broken-hearted mothers who take this journey each year, should be remembered for their loss and honored for their courage, perseverance, and commitment to working for change, so no other mother will know their pain.

This Mother's Day week I encourage everyone to support the efforts of mothers (and families) fighting for justice in memory of their loved ones. To support the work of Gwen Carr

visit the Garner Way Foundation; to support the justice work of the Floyd family visit George Floyd Foundation and visit the Nathaniel H. Pickett II Foundation to learn more about the justice efforts being pursued in his memory.

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

S.E. Williams
Executive Editor

FEATURE STORY

"I think everybody got a real good look at who they were at that time. This whole pandemic was a huge disaster at the beginning. I think what has happened now is we understand a little bit more about what occurred and the urgency of it."

She offered, "Whether we wanted to believe it or not; whether it is a conspiracy theory or not; no matter what it was, millions of people died. Here it is," White proclaimed. "Are we going to deal with it? Did you survive it? Did your marriage get stronger?"

"We do have some people who say, 'Hey, I found out I really like the girl. I'm going to stay right here,'" White shared. "Or, 'I really like the man. He was a good man. I was sick and he stayed right there with me.'"

White concluded there were instances where one or the other got COVID-19 during the peak of the crisis and the husband nursed the wife, or the wife nursed the husband.

"There were a lot of reconciliations."

The Black Voice News Domestic Violence Series is supported by California Black Media's Domestic Violence Journalism and Awareness Project and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of California.

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EDUCATE | ENGAGE | INFORM

Moving forward together in the Inland Empire

Over the past year, we've all been challenged in one way or another by this health crisis — physically, emotionally, financially. And while questions remain about what lies ahead, we know one thing for certain: The only way to move forward is together. To that end, Bank of America remains fully committed to supporting the health and economic recovery of our clients, communities and teammates.

We know that small businesses, so critical to our local economy, have been greatly impacted. Through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), to date we've delivered **478,731* PPP loans** — totaling nearly **\$34.5 billion* in funding** — to help our clients continue to operate and pay their employees. Importantly, **more than 99%** of those loans went to companies with fewer than 100 employees.

Partnering with local nonprofits, we've distributed more than **27 million masks** for vulnerable populations as part of our ongoing efforts to address health-related disparities accelerated by the coronavirus.

We've offered new and expanded benefits to help our employees balance family and work, including over **3.7 million days** of back-up child and adult care. That's an investment of more than \$370 million in child and adult care reimbursement.

I'm so proud of the way our community has come together to help those who need it most. And I'm certain that the Inland Empire has the power to be stronger than ever as a result.



Al Arguello
President, Bank of America Inland Empire



Helping the Inland Empire move forward:

- Delivered PPP funding to over **11,360** of our small business clients for more than **\$726 million** in relief
- Distributed **470,000 masks** through our local partners including:
 - Catholic Charities San Bernardino & Riverside Counties
 - Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
- Expanded benefits for our employees to include additional child and adult care services plus virtual medical and behavioral health consultations at no cost

Go to bankofamerica.com/community to learn more about the work we are doing with our incredible partners.



*PPP data as of 04/04/2021
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