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Inland Southern California's News Weekly

VOICE

December 30, 2021 Volume 49 | Issue 24

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Caregivers Across Generations:

Young Creatives in San Bernardino Raise Awareness About the Importance of COVID-19 Vaccines

Story by Drew Naté and photos by Jeremiah Hill



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wishing you
the happiest
holidays

VOICE

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Keeping it Real with S.E. Williams VOICE bvn

Let Us Look Upstream in 2022

Like many of you (I'm sure), one of the first newflashes I read the morning after Christmas concerned the loss of an international spiritual leader, longtime freedom fighter, advocate for human rights, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient, South Africa's Archbishop Emeritus, Desmond Tutu.

Ironically, for Christmas gifts in 2020, I gave a few of my friends a copy of a 2016 New York Times best seller, *The Book of Joy*, detailing a warm, intimate, and thought-provoking conversation that took place over five days in the spring of 2015 between Archbishop Tutu and the 14th Dali Lama.

In the book, they tackled the question How do you find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering, providing answers—at times with humor--rooted in their individual faiths and personal journeys.

In gifting it I hoped it would help assuage, possibly help make sense of the suffering and trauma imposed by the coronavirus in 2020.

In the wake of Archbishop Tutu's passing, I pulled this book from my shelf for a quick reminder of his wit and wisdom as we come to the end of another tumultuous year, knowing, without much doubt, that another tumultuous year waits in the wings.

After nearly two years of learning to navigate life safely during COVID-19, one thing remains consistent in the fight against COVID-19--communities of color and the poor continue experiencing disproportionate impacts.

In addition, as the inland region seeks to balance its acquiescence to low-skilled warehouse jobs as a solution to a once struggling economy in a region that was already well-known for its sub-standard air quality, the need to seek and deploy optimal mitigation remains somewhat elusive while the area's poorest and least capable of bearing the additional burden of a relentless pandemic in addition to the health impacts of degraded air quality that comes with increased truck traffic moving in and out of the region.

These major considerations appeared to collide and reveal even greater concerns for these



Bishop Desmond Tutu (source: twitter)

communities when an interdisciplinary group of UCR professors released a commentary over the summer highlighting the need to investigate the connection between exposure to air pollution, working conditions, race, poverty and how they work together to increase COVID-19 exposure in the region.

This, in my opinion, added weight to the argument that the outsized impact of the pandemic on Black, Indigenous and other people of color (BIPOC) is about more than underlying health conditions—which certainly has as aspect of credibility but also serves as the typical and historical way this country, at all levels of government, continues to position and center such conversations around blaming the victims—as a way of partly absolving the government and institutions and industries of responsibility and accountability by centering the conversation away from the brutal and systemic practices and policies that undergird these outcomes in the first place. It is kind of like a murderer blaming his victim for being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

As noted in UCR's report, areas with high numbers of COVID-19 cases also have “very high environmental vulnerability scores caused by air pollution from trucks associated with the numerous warehouses in these neighborhoods, among other factors.” Earlier research, as noted in the commentary, showed “small increases in particulate matter translate to an 11% increase in the Covid-19 death rate.”

Looking to the future, concerns around this issue may be even further complicated by

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Black Voice News Part of National Top 10+ Journalism Collaborations of 2021



Staff | VOICE

Every December the Center for Cooperative Media lists the top 10+ journalism collaborations of the year.

Included on the 2021 list is the national project on food scarcity by four Black, Report for America newsroom partners: Black Voice News, New York Amsterdam News, The St. Louis American and the Atlanta Voice for their collaboration on “The Barren Mile: Covid-19 and the fight against food apartheid” The collaboration is believed to be the first time since the 1960’s that Black-owned newspapers have worked together to produce an enterprise story.

The Barren Mile examines the impact the coronavirus pandemic had on communities of color, and focused specifically on how food scarcity increased due to the related complications.

From San Bernardino, California Brooklyn, New York the series explores how residents endured during Covid-19 by relying on food banks, community farms and gardening because of a glaring absence of grocery stores throughout Black and Brown neighborhoods.

Black Voice News and Report for America corps member Breanna Reeves with the support of Mapping Black California Project Manager Alex Reed, produced a report for the collaboration titled, The Barren Mile: Food Apartheid and San Bernardino Residents’ Quest for Fresh, Healthy Food as COVID-19 Persists.

The Center for Cooperative Media’s full list of the Top 10+ Journalism Collaboration of 2021 can be found [here](#).

City of Riverside Citizen Profile: College Counselor and Professor, Julius B. Thomas, Makes History

Drew Naté | Staff

Earlier this year, Rio Hondo College Counselor and Professor Julius B. Thomas was honored as the 2021 Higher Educator of the Year by the National Education Association (NEA), America's largest union of educators, and the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), an organization of NEA higher education members.

Thomas was subsequently awarded the 2021 James Davenport Memorial Award from NCHE and made history in the process.

His first love was music

Thomas, who resides in Riverside, originally grew up on the Northside of Chicago, Illinois, with a mother who worked in the education system and whose father worked for the State of Illinois. During a recent interview with the IE Voice/Black Voice News, Thomas talked about growing up around the classroom with his mother where he learned how to conduct a class and gained valuable experience that helps him today.

Education wasn't something that he always wanted to do though, as his first love and interest was music. Early in his childhood, Thomas played the drums, sang and played in bands where he traveled throughout the United States. Music was his first love, but education was his calling.

As an educator, he has been a tenured professor at Rio Hondo College in Whittier since 2000, working as a counselor to thousands of students. He was awarded the RCCD Alumnus of the Year award in 2017 for his work in education.

Coming to California

Thomas came to California as a young man, who wanted to better himself and get a higher education. After serving in the U.S. Air Force for one tour, he played college men's basketball for both RCC and UCR and excelled in both his academics and athletics and used his skills as a pipeline to his education.



This year, Julius B. Thomas became the first African-American man to receive both the Higher Educator of the Year award and the Davenport Award, as well as the first Californian to receive the Higher Educator of the Year Award (Source: Julius B. Thomas).

At UCR he was team captain, averaging double digits scoring all while maintaining his academics. Basketball was the "extra gravy" he described, to his academics, which always came first.

Making history

This year, Thomas became the first African-American man to receive both the Higher Educator of the Year award and the Davenport Award, as well as the first Californian to receive the Higher Educator of the Year Award.

The Higher Educator of the Year Award recognizes the postsecondary education professional who "continually provides outstanding student service, excellence in teaching and/or working with students, and state/local labor-based advocacy."

When Thomas was asked what this award meant to him as a resident of the Inland Empire he said, "It means everything to me. It's the epitome of my career." He went on to say, "It's a huge honor and it also speaks to the diligence in which I worked in my career."

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classifieds&publicnotices

PUBLIC NOTICES

Your pain is real. Your depression, anxiety, anger, and trauma are all real. My name is Brian A. Dunn and as a licensed marriage and family therapist, and founder and CEO of Real Therapy Center, let's work together to gain real help for you. Visit www.realtherapycenter.com today to get started.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that San Bernardino Community College District of San Bernardino County, acting by and through the Governing Board, hereinafter referred to as SBCCD, is soliciting a Request for QUALIFICATIONS/ PROPOSALS for DESIGN-BUILD OF THE CENTRAL COMPLEX 2 RENOVATION PROJECT AT CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE , Measure CC Bond Program, RFQ/P CC02-3633.01. All responses must be submitted no later January 25, 2022 at 2:00PM PST . The RFQ/P document including submittal instructions can be found at <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/29414/portal-home>. All addenda will be posted on the same website, and Proposers are solely responsible for obtaining any and all original documents and submitting their PRE-QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE/PROPOSAL according to the specifications within the RFQP document, including all addenda. The District reserves the right to reject any or all PRE-QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRES/ PROPOSALS and to be the sole judge of the merits of each submission. An award will be made, if at all, to the firm whose PROPOSAL is in the best interests of the District based upon criteria indicated in the RFQ/P documents. Design-Build Entities, as defined by Education Code Section 81701(c), must submit completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires and be pre-qualified by the DISTRICT as part of this process. A mandatory pre-submittal conference will be held at Crafton Hills College, 11711 Sand Canyon Rd., Yucaipa, CA 92399, Building 11, Central Complex 2 on January 6, 2022 at 1:00 PM PST . 12/30/21, 1/6/22 CNS-3538658#

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NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVCO2106340
To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: JOSEPHINE DE FLORES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JOSEPHINE DE FLORES to. JOSEPHINE HERNANDEZ 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: 01/12/2022 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE 505 S. BUENA VISTA AVE. RM 201. CORONA, CA 92882, CORONA COURTHOUSE. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be to. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be 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: 11/23/2021 Tamara Wagner, Judge of the Superior Court

P. 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVCO 2106299
To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: ALYSSA MONIQUE VASQUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ALYSSA MONIQUE VASQUEZ to. ALYSSA MONIQUE SANGENITO. 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 TELEPHONIC HEARING: Date: 01/05/2022 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2. To appear by telephone dial (213) 306-3065 or (844) 621-3956 (toll free) when prompted enter: Meeting Number 287-806-509# Access code: # Please mute your phone until your case is called and it is your turn to speak. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE 505 S. BUENA VISTA AVE. RM 201. CORONA, CA 92882, CORONA COURTHOUSE. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be 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: Nov 19, 2021 Tamara L. Wagner, Judge of the Superior Court

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVCO 2106330
To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: JESSICA DE HARO and LUIS ERNESTO VAZQUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ERNESTO GABINO VAZQUEZ to. GABINO ERNESTO VAZQUEZ. 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 TELEPHONIC HEARING: Date: 01/12/2022 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2. To appear by telephone dial (213) 306-3065 or (844) 621-3956 (toll free) when prompted enter: Meeting Number 287-806-509# Access code: # Please mute your phone until your case is called and it is your turn to speak. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE 505 S. BUENA VISTA AVE. RM 201. CORONA, CA 92882, CORONA COURTHOUSE. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be 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: Nov 22, 2021 CB HARMON Judge of the Superior Court

P. 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVCO2103733
To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: MARINA TORRES, HENRY TORRES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: SCARLETT ROSE CAAMAL - TORRES to. SCARLETT ROSE TORRES. 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: 01/12/2022 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE 505 S. BUENA VISTA AVE. 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: 12/1/21 Tamara L. Wagner, Judge of the Superior Court

P. 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JODI CAHILL
Case Number PRRI2102303
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: JODI CAHILL. A Petition for Probate has been filed by JENNIFER M. TYNER in the Superior Court of California, County of: RIVERSIDE. The Petition for Probate requests that JENNIFER M. TYNER 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: 02/15/2022 Time: 8:30 A.M. DEPT R11, SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 4175 MAIN ST, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501. 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 four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in 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, A Professional Corporation, 25757 Redlands Blvd, Redlands, CA 92373

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SUMMONS

SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW)
CASE NUMBER FLRI2106943
Notice to Respondent: DEMETRIO PAZ-PICHARDO
You are being sued Petitioner's name is: MARIA VERONICA SOSA
You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120 or FL-123) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ak the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. You can get information about finding lawyers at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/serlfhelp), at the California legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), or by contacting your local county bar association. Tiene 30 dias corridos despues de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citacion y Peticion para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120 o FL-123) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefonica no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar ordenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte tambien le puede ordenar que pague manutencion, y honorarios y costos legales. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacio, pida al secretario un formulario de exencion de cuotas. Si desea obtener asesoramiento legal, pongase en contacto de inmediato con un

abogado. Puede obtener informacion para encontrar a un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio Web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org) o poniendose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado. The name and address of the court is: Superior Court of California, 4175 MAIN ST, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: MARIA VERONICA SOSA, 4580 AVON ST, RIVERSIDE, CA 92509 Notice to the person served: You are served as an individual. Clerk, by T. HOOPER-WILLIAMS, Deputy DATE: OCT 19, 2021

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
CASAMERICA REALTORS, INC
AMERICASLOAN MORTGAGE
11671 Sterling Ave. Unit J
Riverside, CA 92503
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
1240 E. Ontario Ave. Suite 102-329
Corona, CA 92881
CA
This business is conducted by: Corporation
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/23/2003
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. Rigoberto Suarez, 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 11/24/2021
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

Community Mourns the Loss of Leader and Educator, Dr. Margaret Hill

S.E. Williams | Executive Editor

When news reached members of the inland region regarding the passing of community leader and education icon, Dr. Margaret Hill, the unexpected loss left the community with heavy hearts.

A respected leader and longtime San Bernardino City Unified School (SBCUSD) board member, Hill passed away on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Many in the community learned of her passing from a Tweet posted by SBCUSD officials that read, “Thank you Dr. Margaret Hill for leading with love. We will never forget you. Rest In Peace.”

Those within SBCUSD were among the first to react to the loss on Twitter. Dr. Veronica Kelley wrote, “Dr. Hill’s impact will be felt for eternity in our local communities.”

“It is difficult to say the City of San Bernardino without saying Dr. Margaret Hill. Rest in peace,” wrote Spencer L. Brown, ‘Rest in Peace’ you will



Loved for her warm heart, Dr. Margaret Hill frequently encouraged educators to motivate kids with ‘more hugs than tugs’ (source: sbcusd.com).

be missed.”

A current member of the SBCUSD Board, Dr. Hill was also a past president (2015 to 2017). Described by SBCUSD as a passionate advocate for children and a dedicated educational leader, she served passionately and faithfully from the time she was first elected to the position in 2011.

“Dr. Hill was loved for her warm heart and frequently encouraged educators to motivate kids with ‘more hugs than tugs.’” said Board President Dr. Scott Wyatt. “We are better because she led with strength, love and compassion for everyone. We will miss her every day.”

Hill began her career in education as a teacher in 1971 and retired in 2003 after serving 16 years as the principal of San Andreas High School.

She returned to work at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools office in 2006, where she was assistant superintendent of Administrative Services until her second

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Longtime Civil Rights Activist and Community Leader Marta Macias Brown Has Passed

S.E. Williams | Executive Editor

On Friday, December 17th at the age of 77 years, long time civil rights activist, champion of women’s and Chicano equality and wife of the late Congressman George Brown, passed away.

A longtime resident of the Inland Empire, Marta Brown was recognized across the inland region for her longtime commitment to public service. Whether advocating for civil rights, women’s rights, or Chicano equality, her service to causes she valued was enduring.

Commenting on his long relationship with Marta Brown and reflecting on her loss, Black Voice News Publisher Emeritus Hardy Brown, Sr., wrote, “I have known Marta for 56 years. She encouraged [her husband] Congressman George Brown to hire me as a part-time staffer when I retired from Kaiser.

Hardy Brown went on to comment about the joy of having had her in his life and the impact she made on the community.

The San Ban Bernardino Valley College Foundation commenting on the loss of Marta Brown noted how she will be “best remembered for her advocacy work in politics and for co-founding the ‘El Chicano’ newspaper” with her sister Gloria Macias Harrison.

She will also be remembered for her role in helping found the first United

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Marta Brown with her sister Gloria Macias Harrison.

President Biden Says, “Be concerned but not Panicked” About Omicron



Breanna Reeves | Staff

On Tuesday, President Biden gave a speech regarding the current state of the pandemic and addressed growing concerns about Omicron as cases rise throughout the nation.

“We should all be concerned about Omicron, but not panicked,” said President Biden during the briefing. “If you’re fully vaccinated, and especially if you got your booster shot, you are highly protected. And if you’re unvaccinated, you’re at higher risk of getting severely ill from COVID-19, getting hospitalized, and even dying.”

On Monday, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIH) and Chief Medical Adviser to President Biden, discussed the pandemic and the increased presence of the Omicron variant in the U.S as part of the National Press Club’s Headliners Virtual Newsmaker series.

During the livestream, Dr. Fauci presented facts regarding the transmission of COVID-19 variants and explained what the public needs to know about the way in which the Omicron variant differs from the previous strains.

“We were in a late summer surge of 2021, came down, but to a baseline that was unacceptably high. And over the past several weeks, beginning in the end of October and the beginning of November, we are now on an upsurge of Delta,” said Dr. Fauci during the livestream. “We have not yet seen the full impact of the very ominous Omicron variant.”

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported on Monday that 72.3 percent of the U.S. cases monitored between December 12 and December 18 were identified as the Omicron variant and 26.6 percent were identified as the Delta variant.

Insert image 1 here

Medical and health experts warn that in the next few months, hospitals will see an increase in patients and in deaths due to winter surges. The U.S. death toll recently surpassed 800,000 and 50 million COVID-19 cases.

Omicron has been described by some medical experts and epidemiologists as “immune evasive,” which refers to the way a virus

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Caregivers Across Generations: Young Creatives in San Bernardino Raise Awareness About the Importance of COVID-19 Vaccines



Rev Shepard speaks on the importance of change in the life of believers, calling on the congregation to seek out change even in dark days. (photo by Sol Captions Photography)

Drew Naté | Staff

On Sunday, December 19 at St. Paul AME Church in San Bernardino, California, Pastor Steven Shepard announced the winners of a unique competition aimed at helping raise awareness about the importance of COVID-19 vaccines.

The competition was the brainchild of former state assemblymember and California Commission on Aging Commissioner Cheryl Brown as a way to encourage dialogue between generations by focusing on the most critical health issue of this moment that is spanning generations—COVID-19, its vaccines and the issue of vaccine hesitancy.

"I am concerned about intergenerational connections between youth and seniors and was speaking to Sandy Close, head of Ethnic Media Services who was working on a project with the State Department of

Aging," shared Brown commenting on the origins of the contest. "The idea came up and I was excited we could do something different because so many people, young and old, have not been vaccinated in our community."

From this conversation, the idea of a rap competition took root. The California Department on Aging (CDA) agreed to sponsor the contest as part of an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) "Caregivers Across the Generations" initiative.

Brown reached out to other local leaders to help bring the idea to fruition. "When I spoke with Rev. Steven Shepard he approved," shared Brown further noting, "The Inland Empire Health Plan loved the idea and permitted us to use grant funds to put the contest in place."

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Caregivers, continued from page 9

Shepard was instrumental in helping to promote the campaign, several young creatives submitted raps, and three winners were selected from among them.

“The contest was open to the entire community,” confirmed Bown. “I am so proud of the youth who met the challenge and came up with some interesting raps, poetry and spoken word. I hope to do more work with young people and seniors.” Awards were presented to the winners and all participants were honored at St. Paul's AME Church Sunday, December 19 during the 9:30 am service.

The rap competition will be followed with a one hour community conversation among caregivers hosted via Zoom on Thursday, January 13. The contest winners will participate in the discussion.

Officials at the national, state, and local levels advise that with the rise of the highly contagious Omicron variant of the coronavirus, continued efforts to overcome vaccine hesitancy is essential as San Bernardino County continues to lag behind the state in this regard. By Christmas Day, only 53.94% of the county's population was fully vaccinated compared to a statewide average of 66.34%.

1-Rev. Steven Shepard preparing to make announcements. 2-The Usher Board of St. Paul AME Church San Bernardino. 3-Rev. Steven Shepard (L), 1st Place Winner Kennedy King (C), and California Commissioner on Aging and former San Bernardino Assemblymember, Cheryl Brown. 4-Bill Marshall playing the keyboard for a choir selection. 5-Members of the St. Paul AME congregation expressed gratitude to their church leader, Rev. Shepard, by presenting him with gifts. 6-Kennedy King (1st place), DaZsanee Graham (2nd place), Iruka Akpamybo (3rd place), Ariana Graham, Savanna Herb, Dylan Hilton, and Madyson Jamesare, also participated in the competition. 7-Bro. Carlton V Rickman Jr. leading the congregation in the invocation and choral response. 8-Rev. Dr. Johnnie Simmons leads congregation in the scripture reading. 9-LaChelle Watson reciting the call to worship before the choir leads the congregation in a hymn. (All photos by Sol Captions Photography)





WITH AGE COMES WISDOM



"I have asthma. I was so terrified of getting COVID. I was determined to get the vaccine from the start and it was the same for the booster. Since I got the vaccine, I find it a miracle I breathe better now and I feel blessed."

— Marcia Brooks, 60
Menlo Park



COVID-19 vaccines have been tested and proven safe and effective for millions of people. An additional booster dose is recommended to help keep immunity strong and increase protection against COVID-19.

Booster doses are free and available regardless of immigration or insurance status. Free transportation and in-home appointments are also available.



Visit VaccinateALL58.com or MyTurn.ca.gov
or call 833-422-4255 today to learn more.



"We have not yet seen the full impact of the very ominous Omicron variant," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIH) and Chief Medical Adviser to President Biden on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 (source: bing.com).

can mutate in a way that allows it to evade detection by antibodies that are normally produced in response to a virus in the body. More so than Delta, Omicron has been identified as being more infectious and highly transmissible.

According to Dr. Fauci and preliminary clinical studies, the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has a lower effectiveness rate against symptomatic disease with the Omicron variant compared to the Delta variant, but the effectiveness rate increases to 75 percent after a booster dose.

"If there is one success story associated with this outbreak, it's the development of safe and highly effective vaccines in an unprecedented short period of time," said Dr. Fauci. "In fact, this has prompted Science magazine to deem the development of COVID-19 vaccines as the science breakthrough of the year among all scientific accomplishments in that year."

Medical experts and epidemiologists recommend that the public protect itself by doing the following, especially during the winter surge when COVID-19 cases are increasing:

- Get vaccinated and get booster shots (if eligible).
- Get tested using at-home tests or get testing at COVID-19 testing sites.
- Continue to wear masks and seek more protective face coverings such as N95 respirators and KN95 masks.
- Do activities outdoors if able and if not, use ventilation and air filtration systems.

As more data is gathered regarding the spread of Omicron, Dr. Fauci explained that the "end game" for 2022 and beyond will be focused on control regarding COVID-19.

"We're focusing on control, namely, a level of infection that isn't zero, but that with the combination of the vast majority of the population vaccinated and boosted, together with those who've recovered from infection and hopefully also boosted, that we will get a level of control that will be non-interfering with our lives, our economy and the kinds of things we would do, namely, to get back to some degree of normality," said Dr. Fauci.

continued on page 17

Heri Za Kwanzaa, 2021: The Commemoration of Another Attribute of Our Cultural Heritage

Betty Muhammad | TransformAnation

It's time to celebrate the first fruits of the harvest, a tradition handed down to us from our ancestors. Many were farmers who took great pride in planting, cultivating, and enjoying the fresh fruit and vegetables of their labor. Their gardens had to overcome hostile environments of unfriendly weather conditions, rain-soaked soil, lack of fertilizer, etc. Yet, the knowledge, skill, and determination of our ancestors produced a rich harvest; a harvest that provided them with their dietary needs, that instilled within them pride in their accomplishments, and reaffirmed their ability to annihilate all adversity.

They worked, sweated, toiled, and manifested the Ngubo Saba (the seven principles of African Heritage). Then, together, at harvest time, they celebrated the first fruits of their labor. However, the first fruits have a more symbolic meaning.

We, of the African Diaspora, are the first fruits of all civilization. As people of a common history this special celebration reconnects us to our rich foundation and to the moral values that are the basis of a strong, and righteous nation—values like honesty, dignity, gratitude, respect, labor, and love.

Although we may not always exhibit these values as a people, they still live and are embedded deep within our being; encrusted between layers of oppressive laws, attitudes, and behaviors.

Like the gardens of our ancestors, we too struggle to overcome hostile environments; and like garden seeds, every obstacle strengthens us and drives us to emerge more indomitable. Each harvest brings us closer to producing a beautiful, united nation of people—architects of a new world of love, truth, justice, freedom, and peace.

The seven principles of the (Ngubo Saba) remind us of our commitment to one another, as well as our dedication and commitment to the legacy of those who have fought for our liberation, our freedom, and our independence.

Umoja, which is recognized and emphasized on the first day of Kwanzaa, focuses on our unity. At the foundation of unity, is LOVE. Jesus said that He had a NEW commandment for us, "That ye love one another..." (John 13:34). How do we accomplish unity without striving to love one another? How do we begin the process of loving one another? We can start by recognizing the God-given powers within each of us to overcome adversities.

One of the major adversities that exists within our family circles and throughout our community is our lack of positive endearing communication with each other; communication that recognizes, respects



and honors the "essence" of our Creator, God Himself, within each of us. If we believe that we are the Children of the Most High God, then we MUST strive to see that essence in each other in order to be proud of uniting with each other.

When we meet or come together in Umoja, we should see the Children of God at work with each other striving to enjoy each other's company. As a nation of people brought to the wilderness of North America, we must believe that the secret to our success lies in our realization that we must love each other enough to unite with one another.

Kujichagulia (self-determination), is our call to manifest self-determination, to recognize and exhibit our conquering spirit that is innate to our being. We demonstrate the desire to succeed, then build our will to do so. We cannot build the will if we have allowed desire to be crippled or buried. What do we want to build; a righteous nation; "thy kingdom come on earth?"

Ujiima, collective work and responsibility. How can we build without applying Ujiima? To successfully work together, we must become knowledgeable of the composition of our communities including the financial, educational, and professional resources that may be available to assist us. Frederick Douglass stated, "We cannot become contented by allowing anyone to "annihilate our power of reason."

We must research, explore, and investigate so that we may define the common conditions that keep us from manifesting the God-Given powers innate to us as the Mothers, and Fathers of Civilization.

Ujamaa, cooperative economics, informs us of the need to apply our resources toward building our communities with educational institutions, businesses, and homes. Sacrificing time and money, as well as focusing our energies toward self-development is key in building healthy communities. We MUST commit to financially supporting our economic endeavors.

Nia, day five of Kwanzaa, focuses on the importance of helping our people understand that we

are born into this world with a divine purpose. Since we all do not recognize our purpose, it is important to administer programs within our communities that serve to help each other realize his/her importance to the entire group; where each person may know, believe and feel how important he/she is to the entire group and its mission; where the function of education is not only to get a job but, from the mouth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "to teach one to think intensively and to think critically."

And as Minister Louis Farrakhan asserts, "We are not here just to be here; we are all here to make a contribution to the onward march and evolutionary development of man in his pathway to God."

Kuumba, emphasized on the sixth day of Kwanzaa, encourages the application of all these principles through the CREATIVITY that we inherited from our Father; our Creator. We must awaken these talents (musical, artistic, scientific, etc.) to present not only to each other, not only to our communities, but to the entire world as we work towards the complete upliftment and restoration of human society.

Imani, the last of the seven principles of Kwanzaa, summons us to display our faith in God, in ourselves and in our ability to overcome ALL adversity to our determination.

A candle is useless if it does not cast light. The lighting of a candle is metaphoric. The glow from its light symbolizes and generates hope, relaxes anxiety, refocuses our vision and helps us to see clearly.

So, as we light the candles of the Ngubo Saba, let us light 7 more candles.

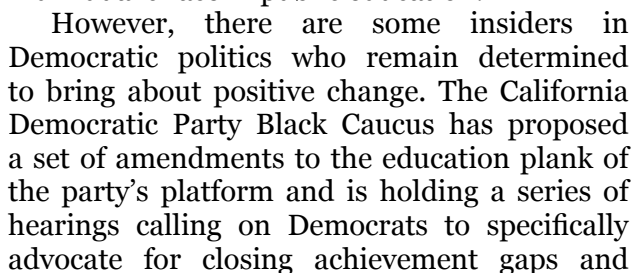
1. For the thousands of Black youths whose darkened minds have driven them to bear arms and kill their young brothers and sisters, snatching from them light, and love and life. Let us light a candle of hope for them today.

2. For the mothers and fathers who bear the scars of a wounded heart—sore from the loss of their sons and daughters, our Black babies, our future men and women, mothers and fathers. Let us light a candle of hope for them today.

3. For the more than one million Black men incarcerated in jails and prisons throughout the United States; the fathers and the maintainers of our village; our Black men whose seeds have germinated and given birth to nations of people; who have been weakened by the darkness of the knowledge of themselves; the young Black men and women victimized by a hostile sector of society that seeks to shoot and kill them just because they exist. Let us light a candle of hope for them.

4. For the more than 30 thousand incarcerated Black

continued on page 17



In addition, California’s English Learner Roadmap, adopted by the State Board of Education in 2017, is a model for setting a policy vision for Black students. What’s needed for Black children is a comprehensive and systematic approach like the state’s roadmap for English learners which states that “English learners are the shared responsibility of all educators and that all levels of the educational

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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-202116620
p. 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022

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

THE BUTTERFLY BEHAVIORAL CENTER
31200 Landau Blvd, Unit 2810
Cathedral City, CA 92234
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
The Butterfly Bahavioral Center LLC

31200 Landau Blvd, Unit 2810
Cathedral City, CA 92234
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. Maryrose Cachola, 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 12/09/2021

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-202116758
p. 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022

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

SAM THE HANDYMAN

11435 Tropic Court

Moreno Valley, CA 92557

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Samuel Lee Davis

11435 Tropic Court

Moreno Valley, CA 92557

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. Samuel Lee Davis

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 11/19/2021

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-202115956
p. 12/16, 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022

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

PALISADES HEALTHCARE

SERVICES LLC

PALISADES STAFFING SERVICES

PALISADES VETERAN SERVICES

1163 Yorba St

Perris, CA 92571

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

1163 Yorba St

Perris, CA 92571

PALISADES HEALTHCARE

SERVICES LLC

1163 Yorba St

Perris, CA 92571

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. Dr. Tomeko Johnson-Smith, 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 10/27/2021

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-202114955

p. 11/11, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2/2021

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

REAL THERAPY CENTER

11801 Pierce Street, Suite 200

Riverside, CA 92505

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

32953 Pacifica Place

Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

Brian Anthony Dunn

32953 Pacifica Place

Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

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. Brian Anthony Dunn

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 12/03/2021

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-202116378

p. 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022, 1/13/2022

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

ENVIOS MEXICO MUEBLERIA

68525 Ramon Rd, Suite A-103

Cathedral City, CA 92234

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Luis Enrique Calbillo

68525 Ramon Rd, Suite A-103

Cathedral City, CA 92234

This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2010

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. Luis Enrique Calbillo
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 12/15/2021

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-202117014
p. 12/23, 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022, 1/13/2022

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

PINKPH ORGANICS

PINKPH

30505 Canyon Hills Rd, Unit 1904

Lake Elsinore, CA 92532

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Zoriah Dante Marie Barge

30505 Canyon Hills Rd, Unit 1904

Lake Elsinore, CA 92532

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. Zoriah Dante Marie Barge

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 12/02/2021

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.

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-202116322
p. 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022, 1/13/1/20/2022

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

EL TORO BRAVO

24691 Alessandro Blvd

Moreno Valley, CA 92553

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

2148 Sunridge Cir

Riverside, CA 92503

R&Q Restaurant Group Inc

24691 Alessandro Blvd

Moreno Valley, CA 92553

CA

This business is conducted by: Corporation
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/10/2021

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. Jimmy-Rodriguez, 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 12/20/2021

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-202117192
p. 12/30/2021, 01/06/2022, 1/13/1/20/2022

Dr. Margaret Hill, continued from page 7

retirement July 2, 2012, before assuming her board position with SBCUSD.

Hardy Brown Sr., Publisher Emeritus of the Black Voice News, commenting on the loss of his longtime friend wrote, "Dr. Margaret Hill's legacy of being a "mother" to every student she came in touch with is an example for all of us to follow. She would go to students' home, and carry them in her car if they needed to get to school," he offered, adding, "I know this from being a school board member and hearing students say these things about her."

Brown continued, "She had that kind of heart and love for people. She believed that all students could achieve in a caring and loving environment, and she set that example as an educator."

According to Brown, Hill demonstrated how to be a courageous fighter for social justice, while living with her own personal battle with cancer. "Her presence will truly be missed but her works, and voice will live on for generations to emulate. I am happy to have known her and have her as a dear friend. I am still trying to wrap my mind around her being gone. . ."

In 2019, SBCUSD honored Dr. Hill by naming its boardroom the Dr. Margaret Hill Community Room.

"Dr. Hill's tireless, kind and cheerful presence made her arguably the most admired leader in San Bernardino and among the greats statewide throughout the education community," said SBCUSD Superintendent Doc Ervin. "She inspired me, and I am thankful to have worked with her here."

Details regarding Dr. Hill's memorial service are pending.

Marta Macias Brown, continued from page 7

Mexican American Student chapter, a precursor to the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano@ de Aztlán, or MEChA. MeChA, an organization that advocates for Chicano empowerment and unity. In 2010, she was instrumental in the founding of the George Brown Legacy Project (GBLP) to ensure the preservation of her late husband's records and in recognition of his problem-solving efforts through community and public service.

Marta and her husband George, will be

memorialized next March with the launch of GBLP research grants. The grants will promote use of the GBLP archives for civic problem-solving and advancing equality, access to education, and protection of the environment.

Marta and George Brown will be featured on Sunday, January 16, 2022 beginning at 2 pm via Zoom as part of 7 Lives Who Led The Way.

I N T H E N E W S

College Counselor, continued from page 5

A history of service and advocacy

Thomas has served on many academic boards. He currently serves as a National Education Association Board Member, Community College Association Board Member, Rio Hondo Faculty Association Executive Board Member, and community volunteer coordinator working with a number of state and non-profit agencies.

Thomas confided, "Everything I've done thus far has been about mentoring, helping, establishing and helping people get to their utopia. The awards are huge but we still have work to do."

The work isn't done for Thomas, a professor, but also an advocate, he's had opportunities to build coalitions with community and social justice organizations working on Black, Latino, Asian, and Indigenous rights, among other issues. He discussed how he continues to fight for equality in the classroom for all students and looks to continue to mentor students.

Regarding mentoring, Thomas shared, "It's important because it was done for me, from my parents, to the military, to community college." Thomas said he loves mentoring young men and women.

With community colleges being the largest system of higher education in the U.S. and California having approximately 2.4 million students across more than 100 campuses, Thomas looks to continue working to make change.



#theievoice

Let's Talk Black, continued from page 14

system have a role to play in ensuring the access and achievement of the over 1.3 million English learners who attend California schools." I agree, and the same applies to over 300,000 Black children too.

California should apply the same comprehensive and robust set of laws, regulations and funding that it has for English learners to its Black students. If it did, results would be better for the state's Black children.

Editor's Note: Dr. Margaret Fortune is the President/CEO of Fortune School, a system of nine, K-12 public charter schools with over 2,300 students focused on closing the Black achievement gap by preparing students for college. She is a State Delegate on the California Democratic Party (CDP) State Central Committee where she also is an elected member of the Executive Board of the CDP Black Caucus. Fortune is Treasurer of National Action Network (NAN) Sacramento and has been an education adviser to two California Governors. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley and Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.

Heri Za, continued from page 13

women; the mothers of all civilization, the teachers, and nourishers of our babies; our future. Let us light a candle of hope for them.

5. For the thousands of Black men, women and children throughout the world plagued with Ebola, HIV/AIDS, COVID-19; outnumbering all other races as leaders of the most degenerative illnesses that are crippling, annihilating their lives, and eradicating their future. Let us light a candle of hope for them.

6. For our young Black girls, growing in numbers as victims of prostitution rings, and sex slave markets; the future mothers of our villages. Let us light a candle of hope for them.

7. For the youth who are striving to complete their educational goals, the educators, and other professionals who are trying to serve them, the members of Black organizations that are striving to help our people to rise above the level of mediocrity and return to their places as the gods and goddesses of the universe. Let us light a candle of hope for them. Realizing the difficulty of the mission they have undertaken to encourage, educate, enlighten, and elevate our people to heights inconceivable. Let us pray that they do not lose their zeal, their spirit, their love of duty and purpose to help build a new generation of enlightened youth that will carry us into the future "perfectly" as Jesus said, "be ye perfect." Perfect people will build a perfect Kingdom, here on earth.

Let us light a candle of hope for humanity that we build a world, envisioned by the great Black Bard Langston Hughes, "Where wretchedness will hang its head and joy, like a pearl, attends the needs of all mankind. Of such I dream, my world!"

San Bernardino County Sends Black Churches Free COVID-19 Test Kits



Pastor Samuel Casey, Executive Director of C.O.P.E., Board of Supervisors Chairman Curt Hagman, and Bishop Kelvin Simmons, President of IECAAC (wp.sbcounty.gov).

Zanesha Williams | Staff

San Bernardino County has set in motion an opportunity for non-profits throughout its jurisdiction to receive COVID-19 test kits to be distributed to their members.

As stated in the San Bernardino County Wire, non-profit organizations can request an allocation of COVID-19 test kits by submitting a request form. Test kits became available beginning Monday December 20.

In the past weeks more headlines are cautioning Californians of COVID-19 spikes in their areas with special attention on the newest variant, Omicron.

David Wert, San Bernardino County's Public Information Officer, states, "The County has an agreement to purchase and receive a large number of do-it-yourself kits, primarily because this is a more efficient and less expensive way to meet the demand for testing..."

Throughout the country, demands for testing in the face of the new Omicron variant are increasing. On Tuesday, December 21, President Joe Biden announced the purchase of half a billion at-home test kits with more information

and a website soon to come.

White House Press Secretary, Jen Psaki, added, "To be clear, we're not sending a test to every single home in the country...We are providing an opportunity, another opportunity or ability for people to go on a website and request a test if their preference is to get that test to their home."

In San Bernardino County the process of at home testing via community leaders has commenced. Wert added, "The delivery last week to COPE was the first of these allocations. The County has put the word out that partners can apply for allocation through this portal." COPE, Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement, is a county non-profit partner.

At this time, San Bernardino County officials have received 61 requests for test and mask allocations which are expected to be delivered within 72 hours.

As you prepare to gather and close out the holiday season, find out where you and your family can be tested. Check your local community organizations and pharmacies to get your at-home test kit.

Let Us Look, continued from page 3



The Honorable Dali Lama (L) and South African Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu during the Seeds of Compassion Interfaith Dialogue held in Seattle, Washington, on April 15, 2008. (Photo by Tomas/Seeds of Compassion via facebook.com)

climate change. Just as science has revealed over the years how the emissions of pollutants into the air can result in changes to the climate, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has argued the same thing can be true in reverse—that climate change impacts air quality.

According to the EPA, "Changes in climate can result in impacts to local air quality." The report further notes that such change can potentially increase ground-level ozone (smog). Of course, decisions regarding how successfully and aggressively measures to mitigate the impacts of a growing warehouse industry, an ongoing pandemic, and the challenges of a rapidly changing climate here in the inland region, depends in large part on who we elect to make these decisions on our behalf.

2022 will provide another opportunity for voters to weigh in and elect representatives at the local (state and federal levels) who will continue the fight for equity.

These are daunting challenges, but I believe real solutions are not the temporary band aids we apply at the moment of crisis but instead get to the root of the problem and excise it. As Archbishop Tutu stated, "We need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."

Rest in peace Desmond Tutu. I pray we find the courage to follow your wisdom in this regard.

I "thank you all" for your readership in 2021, and as I close out this year of commentary, I look forward to unapologetically and always in my opinion, "Keeping it Real" in 2022.

S.E. Williams
Executive Editor

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