12-12-2013

Vol.41 n.20 December 12th 2013

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MANDELA’S LEGACY LIVES STRONG IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Mandela’s Legacy, Our Opportunity

On the day the death of former South African President Nelson Mandela was reported, I was in San Francisco attending the 136th Annual Winter Meeting of the California Press Association. I had been asked by conference organizers to accept an award on behalf of Philip Alexander Bell’s descendants. Mr. Bell was the founding publisher and editor of The Elevator, a weekly newspaper published in the Bay area in the 1880s, and he was being inducted into the California Newspaper Hall of Fame. He used the newspaper as the centerpiece in the campaign to win California’s Black citizens the vote and as the editor he helped shape the political discourse surrounding the issue of enfranchisement.

Much like the system of apartheid that Nelson Mandela suffered 27 years in prison on Robben Island vigorously fighting against, Mr. Bell’s post-antebellum America left Blacks without full citizenship rights. His motto “Equality Before the Law” graced every masthead and served as the underlying philosophy of the publication. My remarks that day focused on Mr. Bell’s tenacious and unrelenting fight for the democratic ideals of freedom and equality for all. Of course, as I spoke to the room of newspaper owners and executives, I thought of Mr. Mandela’s legacy.

I learned about South Africa’s apartheid system as a student in Professor Susan Meisenhelder’s South African Literature class at Cal State San Bernardino. It was the mid-1980s and California college campuses were at the epicenter of the divestment movement. Professor Meisenhelder had just returned from serving as a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Botswana, and through that class introduced us to the sons and daughters of South Africa through its canonical writers: Nadine Gordimer, JM Coetzee, Bessie Head, Andre Brink, Althol Fugard and others. In a slim book “Poets to the People,” an edited collection of South African protest poems, I first heard the name Mandela. Within the pages of that book the writers, exiled poet-activists, painted a portrait of a disciplined freedom fighter that, while still physically imprisoned at the time, continued to serve as the symbolic leader of the anti-apartheid movement.

It was during that class that we helped Professor Meisenhelder organize a regional demonstration, joining students and faculty across the state and nation, in calling for economic sanctions against South Africa. The global pressure eventually proved too much for the South African government. When Mr. Mandela was eventually released from prison he remained committed to the ideals of democracy and helped usher in a new era by leading his country out of a system of racial inequality and oppression and into a democratic future.

When I mentioned to a good friend that the lack of diversity at the association meeting surprised me, he remarked that there is a certain irony in the fact that I was speaking to an audience of primarily White male publishers on a day the global community was reflecting on and remembering Mr. Mandela’s unwavering commitment to racial equality and inclusion.

His comment reminded me that we must take this opportunity to not only reflect, but to act. Mr. Mandela’s legacy belongs to all of us, whether we’re publishers, doctors, teachers, bankers, artists, athletes, scientists, students, professors, lawyers, we must look around our world, shine the light on inequality, speak out against oppression, and promote the democratic ideals of freedom and equality for all. If Mr. Mandela was able to do this from his prison cell on Robben Island, imagine how much more we can do from where we are today.
St. Bernardine Medical Center and Community Hospital of San Bernardino Receive Record Number of Items for Jacket Drive

Amazon Fulfillment Center donates over 100 jackets, coats and sweaters

San Bernardino

Since its inaugural Jacket Drive in 2006, St. Bernardine Medical Center has distributed over 3,000 new and gently used jackets, coats and sweaters in the greater San Bernardino area. And for the past three years, Community Hospital of San Bernardino has partnered with St. Bernardine to collect and distribute the outerwear to needy community members.

This year, over 1,300 jackets, coats and sweaters were collected by the two hospitals, both members of Dignity Health. On average, the annual Jacket Drive generates approximately 450 jackets. “This is an exceptional response,” said Linda McDonald, vice president of Mission Services for St. Bernardine and Community Hospital. “The generosity of area employers, community organizations, our employees and volunteers reflects a great commitment to ensure the coats get to those who need them,” added McDonald.

A new employer that partnered with the hospitals on the 2013 Jacket Drive is the Amazon Fulfillment Center in San Bernardino. On Tuesday, November 20, Amazon employees dropped off over 100 jackets, coats and sweaters at St. Bernardine Medical Center.

All of the outerwear pieces were available in the “holiday boutiques” during the hospitals’ community Thanksgiving events, held at Community Hospital of San Bernardino on November 25, and at St. Bernardine Medical Center’s Family Focus Center on November 26.
Physician and philanthropist, Dr. Prem Reddy, of Victorville, has donated $500,000 to Cal State San Bernardino and its department of nursing. To recognize his gift, the university’s nursing lab will be renamed the Dr. Prem Reddy Nursing Laboratory.

“This is a great day for our nursing students and the community they will serve after graduation,” said CSUSB President Tomás Morales. “Dr. Reddy’s generosity will make a remarkable difference, elevating opportunities for one of the premier academic programs in the entire Inland Empire.”

Dr. Reddy has been a long-time supporter of CSUSB. In 2006, the Dr. Prem Reddy Academic Excellence Scholarship was established for eligible full-time pre-med, nursing and/or health education students who qualified for the scholarship and maintained a minimum 3.5 grade point average at the university.

“These students are our future, and it is imperative that we give them the best training available,” said Dr. Reddy. “I came from an impoverished background to become a cardiologist. Nothing is impossible for these hard working students, and I hope that this laboratory and equipment helps them achieve their dreams.”

The gift will allow the nursing lab to update critical equipment, including patient simulators that provide students with an unparalleled learning experience. The soon-to-be named Dr. Prem Reddy Nursing Laboratory is a model for hands-on nursing education.

The gift will be a boon to the nursing department, which is in the university’s College of Natural Sciences, adds Dean Kirsten Fleming.

“This generous gift will allow for state-of-the-art equipment in the nursing skills lab,” said Fleming. “The lab provides a safe learning environment for nursing students which allows them to apply their skills and build their confidence before they treat patients.”

Born in India, Dr. Reddy immigrated to the United States in 1976 with his wife, Venkamma, who is also a physician. He is double board-certified in internal medicine and cardiology. He was awarded the honor of Fellow of the American College of Cardiology and a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians. During his 25 years of practice in the High Desert, he has committed himself to the service of his patients and performed more than 5,000 cardiac procedures, including coronary angiography and angioplasty, and permanent pacemaker implantations.

Dr. Reddy founded Prime Healthcare in 2001, starting with Desert Valley Hospital in Victorville. Since then, Prime Healthcare has expanded to own and operate 23 hospitals across the nation. The health system has been recognized as one of the “15 Top Health Systems” in the nation three times in the last five years, including in 2013, and its hospitals have earned the “100 Top Hospitals” recognition 21 times.

The CSUSB nursing department in the College of Natural Sciences offers both a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and a Master of Science degree in nursing and averages more than 400 undergraduate nursing majors in the generic pre-licensure BSN program based on admissions in the fall and winter.

The generic BSN program is offered at the San Bernardino campus as well as at CSUSB’s Palm Desert Campus. Visit the nursing department website at http://nursing.csusb.edu for more information.

Curtis Wright: Historian, Musician, Humanitarian HISTORY OF THE BANJO will explore the historical roots of the instrument and other African-derived elements in blue grass music. This special performance will take place Sunday, December 15, 2013 from 1:30-4:00pm in the Box at the Fox Entertainment Plaza in downtown Riverside.

Sponsored by the Multicultural Council of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum Associates and the City of Riverside Human Relations Commission, the program is part of the California’s recognition of the Day of Inclusion. Mayor Rusty Bailey will offer a resolution acknowledging December 17th as a Day of Inclusion in the City of Riverside.

California State Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 76 established December 17th as the “Day of Inclusion” in 2009. On that day in 1943, the U.S. Congress repealed the nation’s first law to ban immigration by race or nationality.

The Day of Inclusion is a day set aside for all of us to remember, learn and celebrate our diverse cultural heritage, and embrace our shared differences and common goals.

Wright’s appearance, a combination lecture and musical performance, is a FREE program. Seating is limited, so come early. For more information: Riverside Metropolitan Museum, 951-826-5273.
When You Give You Receive! – Unique California Lottery Holiday Promotion in Full Swing

Sacramento

Californians who purchase Scratchers® this holiday season have a golden opportunity to add a little more jingle to their gift by sealing a special decorative envelope with a creative video! Customers who purchase any Scratchers game at participating retailers will receive a free Golden Greeting gift envelope. They can then scan the QR code on the envelope with a mobile device and upload a short (12-second maximum) personal video, or select a generic greeting to send to friends and family.

Recipients simply scan the QR code, or go directly to the Golden Greeting website (http://goldengreeting.calottery.com/) and enter a retrieval code that the giver writes on the Golden Envelope. The four character retrieval code is provided to the giver after their video is approved.

The Lottery wants to assure all personal videos are “family friendly,” so they will be reviewed first for appropriate content, and then uploaded if given the okay. The process can take up to 24 hours before the video is “live” and available for viewing. (You can read the terms of service, which are listed on the Golden Greeting website).

Anyone can participate in the creation of a Golden Greeting video, however you must be 18 years or older to purchase Scratchers or any other California Lottery Product. For more information on how to give a “Golden Greeting,” plus to watch an example of a personal greeting video, check here.

This month, the Lottery is offering a family of $1, $2, $3 and $5 holiday Scratchers to fit all budgets. Not only are the $1 Sweet Holidays Scratchers perfect gifts to stuff into those Golden Greeting envelopes – they can even be used as gift tags.

Also, the Lottery’s latest holiday commercial is now airing in major television markets throughout California. You can check out the 60 second spot here and feel the joy of the season.

The “When You Give, You Win” holiday promotion is part of the Lottery’s continued effort to give out more prizes, create more winners and earn more money for California public schools. This past fiscal year, the sale of Lottery products generated $1.28 billion for students – the 13th consecutive year more than a billion dollars was distributed to public schools throughout the state.

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Give the Gift of Safety During the Holidays

Rosemead

As families decorate for the holidays, Southern California Edison (SCE) urges its customers to ensure the experience is joyous by always being aware of power lines when adorning outdoors. They also are encouraged to avoid shock and fire hazards such as frayed electrical cords and overloaded outlets.

With people decorating their homes for the holidays, it is imperative to practice electrical safety, such as not throwing light strands or electrical cords into trees near power lines or on utility poles, not using decorative lighting with broken fuses or lightbulbs and keeping electrical connections away from moisture.

“The joy that festive decorations bring can lead people to overlook their potential dangers,” said Bill Messner, principal manager of Health and Safety at SCE. “It is vital that families follow instructions, inspect decorations and practice safety to minimize the risk of electric shock, fires or injuries.”

U.S. fire departments respond to an average of 230 home fires annually that start with Christmas trees, resulting in an average of six deaths, 22 injuries and $18.3 million in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association. About 5,800 people annually also are treated in hospital emergency rooms for falls associated with holiday decorations, with more than half of them coming from ladders or roofs while decorating outdoors, the fire association said.

SCE recommends some other safety tips for the holidays:
- Never place lights closer than 10 feet to power lines and always be aware of power lines.
- Use wooden or fiberglass ladders when decorating outdoors. Metal ladders conduct electricity.
- Always inspect your ladder before using it to ensure that it is safe. If the ladder is damaged, buy a new one that is safe to use.
- Be sure electrical cords are not placed at an angle or position that pinches them, like in windows. Use plastic zip cords when hanging lights instead of staples, tacks or nails.

More safety tips are available at www.sce.com/holidaylighting. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.
Self-Esteem & Self-Worth Soiréé
Friday, December 13, 6:00p – 10:00p.
Real Women Revealed & StarzKreations Will Be Hosting An Evening of Positive Energy & Uplifting Women in Style & Fashion! We Look Forward to Sharing Some Exclusive Vendors With You; Great Networking & Sisterhood; and Pleased to Comedian: Regina Ivery, in the House, for Some Positive Fun Energy! If You’re Interested in Being a Vendor at This Event Please Reach Out to Us for Early Bird Specials & Etc. Cost: $15.00 ($20.00 at the door). Location: Riverside Community Health Foundation Education Center, 4445-A Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA. For more info, please email therealwomenrevealed@gmail.com.

Fernando Harkless Live
Saturday, December 14, 9pm-1am
Come out and experience saxophonist, vocalist, clarinetist, flutist, song writer producer, guitarist and a fantastic showman Fernando Harkless, Saturday, December 14th beginning at 9pm to 1am as American Legion Post 14 presents the

Covered California, the state health insurance exchange, on Thursday launched its “Give the Gift of Health” campaign aimed at families, principally mothers and grandmothers (for the latter, apparently a $5 bill no longer cuts it).

Officials estimate roughly 1.8 million residents aged 18 to 29 are eligible to obtain health insurance through the exchange or qualify for free or reduced Medi-Cal, the government program for the poor and disabled. About 2.6 million Californians - many of them under 30 - will qualify for a federal subsidy reducing their monthly premium.

Officials are targeting young people with the campaign, because healthy consumers are essential to balancing out risk pools when sicker patients, who can no longer be denied coverage, enter the individual market because of the new health care law.

The holiday campaign includes a website at CoveredCA.com/pledge, where one can “pledge” to cover the cost of insurance; e-cards containing information about covered options and tips for starting a discussion about the importance of getting insured.

California officials and healthcare reform advocates concede that parents can’t force medical decisions on their adult children. But they can help get them affordable insurance.

Young adults tend to see themselves as invincible until they get sick. Giving the gift of health insurance has multiple benefits to include raising awareness on disease prevention and the commitment to create a healthy lifestyle.
any of us have read the scripture Luke 23:34 where Jesus is hanging on the cross and utters these words: “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” I have taught Bible lessons on this many times and often wondered how a human being could find it in his heart to forgive the people who condemned him to death in the first place.

I know that all of us have struggled with forgiving some one, some time but how about this situation:

You live in Southern Africa and are a part of the 79% of Blacks whose ancestors have lived there since it was inhabited. Over a few hundred years, smaller groups of Europeans settle the land, build colonies, and develop trading economies. They eventually form a government that excludes you from participating as full citizens.

They build a powerful police force, army, and the 25th largest economy in the world off of your labor. They suppress your people’s rights including where you live. You have to have proper identification in order to leave your neighborhood. Your living conditions were that of slums with no modern sanitary infrastructure including no indoor plumbing or running water. Your government leaders put you in prison or execute you if you speak out against the government.

During the final years of the apartheid system, I had the good fortune of hosting exiled Black South Africans in our home. I could somewhat relate to their plight because I grew up in the segregated south in North Carolina living under Jim Crow Laws. I did not have to have identification to leave my neighborhood but we never wanted to be caught out at night alone or in a White neighborhood. I later learned that many of the racial laws implemented in South Africa were transported from our good old United States of America.

Our South African friends described in detail the horrible conditions of the apartheid government. I cannot begin to describe the ungodly things that happened to them, their friends, and members of their families. But I want to focus on one man who was put in prison for 27 years and denied visits by his wife and children. He was often placed in solitary confinement. He could only use a bucket as his bathroom. Every written word he wrote or received from the outside world was analyzed or in some cases cut from the pages.

Let me suggest you study the life of Nelson Mandela and the apartheid system that he and 25 million Black Africans lived under and ask yourself the question: Could I ask my heavenly father to forgive them for they know not what they do? Could you after 27 years of being condemned to hard labor in prison, separated from family, friends, and your community find it in your heart to forgive those who imprisoned you?

Mandela taught me many lessons in leadership, including the concept of not taking on other people’s enemies as your own. When asked to denounce some world leaders by the US government, Mandela responded: “these leaders stood by me when I was in prison so I will stand with them now that I am out of prison.” There are many other lessons you can learn from his life but the greatest one for me is how to forgive your enemies and still change the world.
Many of you have read that Fontana has been named as the 15th safest city in the United States of America. Now, how that came about is “The Fontana Story Our Path to Reinvent Government and Public Safety”. Our City considers Public Safety to be the core responsibility of government. So how do you transition from being called “Felony Flats” into the safest community in the Inland Empire? You change the way the city sets its priorities, known as blurring departmental lines, integrating spending to achieve real outcomes, commit to making programs sustainable for the long run, and replicating what works. We recognize that running a city is not a competition but a partnership. You see, Police and Public Safety are only part of the story.

When other cities were running from their Multi-Family Housing Programs, we listened to the residents and began tracking crime statistics. This created an opportunity for the city to buy the worst housing complexes and rehab them. We placed each one under new management, and in the process eliminated the source of the crime. After acquiring 30 buildings/600 units we had eliminated the source of crime and provided quality housing for our citizens to rent and live near. We invested in our youth and their safety by spending $129 million on park projects. Our youth now enjoy 13 new parks amounting to 162 acres of park land. Families now enjoy 15-lighted parks for soccer and football. We have also more than doubled the number of lighted fields for baseball. It didn’t stop there; we also built the Heritage, Jessie Turner, Fontana Teen and Senior Community Centers along with the Library, Fontana Aquatics Center and Martin Tudor Water Park. Fontana is one community, in that, we have joint use agreements with most of the 5 school districts that are responsible for the education of our children and it includes joint programming.

Investing annually in the Community is our pledge. We commit to reinvesting 10% of the City’s budget in infrastructure, while at the same time, removing graffiti within 24 hours, installing sidewalks, creating safe routes to school, repairing potholes and a pavement management system that spends $5 million per year to repair streets. But our pride is with the partnerships we have fostered and continue to grow, such as the Award winning After School Program, FLIP (Fontana Leadership Intervention Program), Teen Center Programming, Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council, Re-Entry Program for our citizens returning from Prison, CAP(Community Assistance Program), youth Camps, and the list continues. We have project investments in technology, helicopters, community lighting, area commanders along with paramedics, all working together to keep the city safe.

Fontana changed perception by changing reality. We have built a strong foundation created by strong leadership and the greatest city staff on this planet. But we are not done, we will continue to evaluate and listen to our citizens on ways to improve. Fontana became a strong team with citizens, the faith based community, businesses, schools, and other governmental agencies. Not a bad record for the past 14 years. Imagine the success we will make the next 14 years!

Acquenetta Warren
Mayor of Fontana
By Corey Jackson

I was just a freshman at Rialto High School with not that many friends and spent most of my time as a loner. I wanted to be a part of something different and meaningful. That is when my freshman career exploration teacher, Mr. Ernest Rhoné recruited me to create an organization in 1998 based on fraternal practices and traditions. Mr. Rhoné and I spent a year of planning how the organization was going to be structured, what principles we were going to follow, and what traditions we would follow. We then identified 12 students of various grades, ethnicities, and backgrounds to be the founding members – the birth of an organization was almost a reality.

But when I attended our first meeting 15 years ago, my entire life changed. Suddenly my life was full of purpose and adventure. It was then that I decided to dedicate my life to serve God, make a difference in this world, and take this organization to the next level.

As many of us grew older and became more established in our lives we decided to take our high school program and turn it into a nonprofit organization called Sigma Beta Xi Inc. (SBX) is a grassroots mentoring organization, whose mission is to establish strong families and communities by building an organization of diverse men who will exemplify leadership and professionalism based upon the principles of Wisdom, Brotherhood, Service, Excellence, Endurance, and Unity. Through these principles and a lot of love and discipline, we seek to develop men who will keep families together and not create single-mother households. We also seek to develop men who will not seek money and success for their own well-being, but in order to be in a better position to strengthen and make a difference in their communities.

With the dream of Earnest Rhoné IV, SBX has become an alternative to suspension for the most at-risk young men through the creation of Academies for Young Men. SBX now seeks to replicate and improve upon 15 years of success to ensure that young men do not continue a cycle of poverty and hunger. Academies for Young Men are now serving over 100 young men on six local middle schools in the Moreno Valley Unified School District and one high school at Rialto High School to provide males students with five core pillars of mentoring, a support system, school readiness, community service, and leadership development.

Mentorship – Students will be mentored by professionals and other adults of character. Mentors will provide guidance on such issues as responsibility, hard work, professionalism, and positive attitudes. A substantial body of research suggests that mentoring programs can improve outcomes for disadvantaged youth, and that the benefits of mentoring accrue over time. For example, researchers have found that youth ages 10 to 16 whose relationships lasted at least one year experienced substantial benefits, with significant improvements in feelings of self-worth, perceived social acceptance, perceived scholastic competence, the value placed on school, and the quality of relationships with parents as well as
decreases in drug and alcohol use as compared with non-mentored youths. Given the barriers to advancement they face, young males are particularly in need of these developmental supports.

**Support System** – Too many youth do not have the support of their families or positive role models to guide them towards success. Sigma Beta Xi provides a network of brothers, professionals, and college students from which they can draw strength and support so that they may stay focused and work through life’s challenges.

**School Readiness** – Additional tutoring and assistance will be given to ensure that students are passing their classes and taking the requisite courses at the appropriate level of rigor to ensure that they are on track academically for high school graduation and qualify for institutions of higher learning.

**Leadership Training** – There are not enough leaders in society who are willing and able to create positive change. Youth are equipped to initiate change in their communities. Sigma Beta Xi will help youth develop vital skills in leadership, civic engagement, critical thinking, workforce professionalism, team building, conflict resolution and other key areas. Each student will be given a leadership position or opportunity to develop their skills. They will learn to identify local issues, problems and concerns and will research viable solutions to implement positive change.

**Community Service** – Sigma Beta Xi believes that strong communities are created when its members are actively involved. Young men are taught the importance of serving one’s community to make it a better place through volunteer opportunities.

This disruptive program relies on its decentralized network structure that scale quickly, are highly adaptable, and are hard to destroy. Run by its members with after-school and weekend academic mentoring, SBX made two things clear: 1) you are a member of an academic society with standards, principals, a dress code and expectations and 2) you always will be. Now with over 100 members, SBX calls on alumni when help is needed and has sustained itself with zero funding. Recently SBX called on outside help – five Americorps Vista staff for 3 years-- to help form an expansion chapter in nearby Moreno Valley. Now with Wells Fargo as its primary sponsor, SBX has expanded rapidly. **continued on page 21**

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**Mentoring Makes A Difference**

**Greggory Burchett - U.S. Army**
Sigma Beta Xi has helped me feel like I belong to an extended family. I have been a part of Sigma Beta Xi since I was a freshman in high school in 2002. From that point I have always felt like I belonged to something important. I have learned social skills and how to help others with anything they need. I am currently in the U.S. Army and I have been deployed overseas several times. But throughout those times there has always been someone I can talk to if I need it and someone always checks up on me. Sigma Beta Xi is more than just a group of people that are close friends. We are a close knit family no matter where in the world you are you will always have that family and a very rare type of Brotherhood. 

**Jason Parnell - Lawyer**
I joined Sigma Beta Xi at the beginning of my freshman year of high school. This organization taught me how to balance a schedule and fully utilize each waking moment of the day to ensure that I fulfill my responsibilities. Learning these time management skills enabled me to excel in college, law school, graduate school, and a full-time job. My mom made me join after she received a flyer in the mail from the school describing a “leadership organization for young men.” She thought I would benefit because I had been suspended from school, at least once, each of the previous four years. I got into fights, threw things at teachers, shoplifted, wrote people hate letters, and ditched classes. Joining Sigma Beta Xi helped me to meet other young men like myself who inspired me to have a greater purpose in life and to become a better person.

**Gregory Burchett**

**Lloyd Sheppard**

**Mark Fields**

**Jason Parnell**

**Gerald E. Daniels, Jr. - Economist**
As a Rialto High School and Sigma Beta alumni, I must say that Sigma Beta is an excellent organization for facilitating a student’s development of leadership and professional skills. Also, I feel that the organization’s focus on academic excellence and serving the community are model principles for any organization affiliated with academics. I am proud to have been a member of Sigma Beta, and I hope that the organization continues to help prepare students for their future careers.

**Greggory Burchett - U.S. Army**

**Lloyd Sheppard - Math Teacher**
Growing up I was always the “black” sheep out of all the people I knew. I had personal goals and high standards but it was rare for people in my life to motivate me to continue to strive for “more.” When I joined Sigma Beta Xi I was surrounded by a bunch of guys my age and a mentor that frequently spoke about being great. I believe this is when my desires to be successful in life where truly reinforced. I owe Sigma Beta Xi with helping me stay true to my goals and being a positive support system.

**Mark Fields - Youth Minister**
Sigma Beta Xi was one of the most impactful experiences of my youth and changed the trajectory of my life. I came from a broken family where my father separated from my mom when I was five years old, leaving my mother, siblings, and me on welfare and struggling for survival. Sigma Beta Xi restored my ability to believe I could be more and helped me develop the tools I needed to achieve. I am excited about Sigma Beta Xi’s ability to replicate these results in the lives of young men all over the country!
Nelson Mandela’s Legacy Lives Strong

The South African leader’s life had a far-reaching impact on U.S. civil rights progress.

By Corey Arvin

As the world mourns and remembers the struggles and triumphs of South Africa’s Nelson Mandela, community leaders in Southern California reflect on the profound impact Mandela had on their lives—how he shaped their perspectives and empowered the U.S. to improve civil rights locally and abroad.

To call local civil rights activist Sylvia Martin-James a fervent supporter of Mandela would be considered an understatement. The former school teacher and Riverside community leader was forever in awe of Mandela’s life and his unflinching opposition to the devastation of apartheid. She lamented his imprisonment, but also celebrated his subsequent release from prison in 1990 while she focused on advancing civil rights in California. Martin-James is perhaps best known for supporting the Grier Pavilion project at Riverside City Hall—a monument opened in 2008 to honor civil rights activists Barnett and Jean Grier. Martin-James helped to raise more than $150,000 for the project to be developed.

Over the years, Martin-James has accumulated a collection of photographs, event programs, and memorabilia as she honored Mandela’s life, even travelling to Capetown, South Africa twice to witness him receive awards for his leadership. Her esteem for this collection is deeper than the box of memories of Mandela she has built over the last two decades. After receiving word of Mandela’s passing at the age of 95 on Dec. 5, she spared no time in reaching out to the Voice to share her unique experience with following Mandela’s life.

“There is a sadness in losing [Mandela], but he is an important figure to the world who will always be remembered,” said Martin-James.

With Mandela’s passing, Martin-James travels to see him will cease too, though she remembers him with fondness and respect for his fight to lead South Africa’s resurgence and promote global peace.

Throughout the 20th century, many parallels have been drawn to compare South Africa’s challenge to white-minority oppression, and African-Americans’ struggles for inclusion and social progress in the United States. At times, these experiences were inseparable comparisons, which inspired many civil rights leaders, causing them to sympathize with South Africa and resonate with the anti-apartheid movement.

V.P. Franklin, PhD, a University of California, Riverside (UCR) Presidential Chair, is a Distinguished Professor of History and Education and Editor of The Journal of African American History. Franklin has studied the anti-apartheid movement and published dozens of scholarly...
articles on African-American history. Franklin points to the Sharpeville Massacre in April 1960 as one of the most significant events that demonstrated the similarities between the civil rights protests in the U.S. and the anti-apartheid protests in South Africa.

“Mandela was jailed in 1962 and was not in a position to influence the protests here. However, the crackdown on ANC [African National Congress] leaders and supporters in the 1980s sparked a demand in the U.S. for an end of violence in South Africa and freedom for political prisoners, including Mandela. The Free South Africa Movement put economic sanctions and freedom for political prisoners on the agenda of the U.S. government and legislation was passed – over Ronald Reagan's veto – in 1986. The economic sanctions endorsed by the UN and other nations forced the white leaders to enter into dialogue with Mandela and the ANC,” said Franklin.

According to Franklin, important lessons from the apartheid and U.S. civil rights era have been learned and also reshaped democracy.

“I believe the United States learned lessons in the 1960s about the need to end legalized white supremacy and the dehumanization of people of color in American society. The U.S. became a multicultural democracy as a result of the civil rights campaigns and the anti-apartheid struggle led to the formation of a multicultural democracy in South Africa. Both struggles served as models for how previously oppressed minority (or majority) populations can be incorporated into the larger society through peaceful means, although not without organized protest and support from people and organizations internationally.”
Are we plugged in?

At a recent gathering at the California African American Museum, Black leaders, politicos, and the clean-air and fuel industries joined with General Motors, the California Electric Transportation Coalition and the Washington, D.C.-based Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies to discuss topics that included cleaner cars and healthier communities. The event featured a panel discussion moderated by Danielle Dean, director of the Joint Center’s Energy & Environmental Program. Panelists were Dr. Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association; Janea Scott, a member of the California Energy Commission; and Sabin Blake, a GM marketing manager. Read the entire article on: www.blackvoicenews.com.
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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 

TECHCELL WIRELESS
10001 E. Suisun City Blvd., Suite 110, Sacramento, CA 95822
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/1/13.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Larry W. Ward, County Clerk
FILE NO. R-2013-11872
p. 11/21, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 2013
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER 1312172
To All Interested Persons:
PETITION has been filed by JASON JACQUET a petition for this court to change the legal name of JASON JACQUET to JASON PENDERGAST. The hearing in this matter appear before this court at the above address on the date and time indicated below. Any person, who may object to the petition and show cause why the petition should not be granted, must file a written objection and serve a copy thereof upon the petitioner, JASON JACQUET at the address of the court: Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501, and upon the personal representative, if any, at the address of the court, Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501. A copy of this Order to Show Cause form is available from the court clerk. Petition filed on 10/19/13. Hearing Date: Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: T-1, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501. The court hearing is open to the public. Any person interested in the estate, you may file a written objection to the hearing, and you may request to receive a copy of the petition for change of name. Any objection to the petition and objections to the court hearing are due at least 10 days prior to the date indicated on the petition. A copy of the order to show cause shall be served at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date indicated on the petition. Notice of the objection or objections to the court hearing is published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date indicated on the petition.
counseling, printed in this county: Black Voice, 4290 Brookside Road, Riverside, CA 92501.
Date: NOV 12 2013
SHAIRON J. WATERS, Judge of the Superior Court
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER RIC 1312799
A. All Interested Parties: Petitioner: STEPHANIE BALDWIN filed a petition with this court for change of name as follows: ARIEL ALYSIA QUINTERO to ARIEL ALYSIA BALDWIN. 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 described 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 court may grant the petition without a hearing. Notice of Hearing: Date: 12/10/13 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: 10 The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, 4050 Main St., (P.O. Box 431), Riverside, CA 92502-0431. A copy of the Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date of the hearing in the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
72895 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260 Riverside County
HK Lane Referral Network
72895 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HK LANE REFERRAL NETWORK
72895 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260 Riverside County
HK Lane Palm Desert Inc, A/I# C2939185, 72895 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260

This business is conducted by: a corporation
Register(s) who have authorized the use in this state of a fictitious business name as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: Individual
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: Individual
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
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Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

This business is conducted by: A corporation
Register(s) who declare as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
FILE NO. R-2013-12349
p. 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2, 2013
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
PERSON & PERSON INTERNATIONAL, Inc.  
Person & Person International, Inc.  
3635 Taft St.
Riverside, CA 92501
File No. R-2013-12349
p. 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2, 2013
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not 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). Larry W. Ward, County Clerk  
Clerk T. ACEVEDO  
1/6/14

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE NUMBER RIC 1313349  
To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: JALEN ANGELO GALE-GROWING  
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: From JALEN ANGELO GALE-GROWING to JALYN ANGELO GALE-GROWING.  
A new Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed in the Office of the County Clerk.  
The business is conducted by: General Partnership  
JALYN ANGELO GALE-GROWING  
GOLDEND  
3635 Taft St.
Riverside, CA 92501
This business is conducted by: Individual  
KAREN BELL  
FILE NO. R-2013-12459
p. 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2, 2013
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not 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). Larry W. Ward, County Clerk  
Clerk T. ACEVEDO  
1/6/14
Boys into Manhood, continued from page 11
Each graduating class has a representative on the SBX Board, and alumni are called upon to serve as organizers and mentors under a truly grass roots organizational structure.

Measurable Outcomes:
The success of the program has been measured by the rise in G.P.A. scores, decline in suspensions, rise in attendance, and increased volunteer and leadership training hours.

The Need:
Male students are lagging behind female students. Traditionally, girls have outperformed boys in reading and writing. Although this gap may be minimal in kindergarten, it grows as students continue their education. According the 2004 National Reading Assessment measured by the US Department of Education, the gap between boys and girls, only slightly noticeable in 4th grade, left boys 14 points behind girls during their 12th grade year. On the 2008 test, female students continued to have higher average reading scores than male students at all three ages. The gap between male and female 4th graders was 7 points in 2008. By 12th grade, there was an 11 point gap between males and females.

Even more alarming is African American Male achievement. The National League of Cities’ Institute for Youth, Education & Families outlines the troubling future that faces young men in general and Black males in particular. Their research shows that commitment to equal opportunity – a society in which every child has the same chance for success regardless of his or her background – is among the most deeply-held convictions shared by Americans of all political persuasions. Yet nowhere is there a wider and more apparent gap between our ideals and our experience than in the immense and persistent disparities in outcomes between Black male children and their peers.

As reflected in an extensive range of indicators that are strongly correlated with children's future success in school and the workforce, Black children – and in particular Black males – grow up facing some of the largest disadvantages of any demographic group:

In 2010, Black children were more than twice as likely to live in households with no parent in the labor force as White children, nearly three times as likely to live in single-parent households and nearly 60 percent more likely to lack health insurance.

The poverty rate for Black children in 2010 was 39.1 percent compared with 12.4 percent of White children, and Black children are nine times as likely to live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty.

In 2009, only 11 percent of Black male fourth grade students in cities with populations above 250,000 were proficient in reading compared with 38 percent of White male public school students in cities of all sizes across the nation.

Fewer than half of Black male students graduated from high school on time in 2008, compared with 78 percent of White male students.

In 2008, Black males ages 18 and over were underrepresented in colleges and universities, accounting for five percent of the nation’s college students, and overrepresented in prison, accounting for 36 percent of the nation’s prison population.

Homicide is the leading cause of death for Black males between the ages of 15 and 24, and is responsible for more deaths of Black males in this age group than the nine other leading causes combined.

Other data show that Black children and youth are disproportionately more likely to be abused and neglected, be placed into foster care, report a gang presence at their school, be suspended from school, be disconnected from both school and the workforce, and fail to complete their postsecondary educations after enrollment.

The existence of these disparities has been well known for a long time. Only recently has the national dialogue on these issues reflected a heightened sense of urgency.
Parenting: New Opportunity, New Challenge

A very significant activity will occur in each California public school district in spring, 2014. That activity is the development of school district Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs). School Districts will hold one or more public hearings to gain public input on the LCAP which will describe how they intend to meet annual goals for all pupils with specific activities to address state and local priorities. This is as a result of new California law. Of particular interest to parents of African American students is what the LCAP should say about Parent Involvement.

Actually, Parent Involvement is one of eight required components of the LCAP that school districts will describe. But that component should spell out how the involvement of parents will include parent training, especially addressing the new Common Core standards and the Smarter Balance Assessments which are new big changes that schools and districts are undertaking. Since schools are redefining what students should learn and be able to do— the Common Core standards, parents need to have that information. Parents should have training about how they can be helpful to their children at home, given these new changes. Similarly, since schools will soon be using new Smarter Balance assessments to measure how well children are learning the common core standards in elementary, middle and high schools, parents need opportunities for instruction on how these assessments (tests) will be different from the old STAR test. One difference is that students will need to become skillful on computers to take these new tests, starting with the trial tests in the spring of 2014. Soon students will no longer take state tests using paper and pencils. African American parents need to know what these computer skills are, so that their children can practice them at home, where possible.

Undoubtedly this new effort at “parent involvement” to be described in the LCAP will require some new allocation of resources. Now is the time for parents to voice their advocacy for dedication of some of the supplement funds to parent training to help their children at home with these new common core and smarter balance requirements. Talk to your principal and find out where and when parent voices can be heard.

Why is it important to find out about how your local district will proceed with the new expectations for parent involvement? Because it is always the case that there will be competition for scarce resources—funding; and it will be easy for parent training to be ignored, even at a time when their children need it most. Moreover the new California funding formula called the Local Control Funding formula (LCFF) recognizes funding targets for school districts based on the demographic profile of the students they serve with supplemental and concentration grants. The Local Control Accountability Plans should state how these funds will be used.

I published a study in 2012 describing high performing, high minority schools like Watt sLearning Center in Los Angeles, Wilder Prep Academy in Inglewood, Hardy Brown College Prep in San Bernardino and PS 7 K-8 school in Sacramento. All of these schools stress the importance of parent engagement and support of their children’s learning at home, in addition to what dedicated teachers and administrators do at school. These are all high performing elementary and middle schools with APIs greater than 800, whose students are mostly African American. What parents and educators from these schools do is described in the book, Bridging the Achievement Gap: What Successful Parents and Educators Do which is available on Amazon.com. But these tools are only part of the training materials needed. The California Department of Education website www.cde.ca.gov has links to Common Core Standards, Resources for Students, Parents and Guardians. I particularly like their link to the Council of Great City Schools Parent Roadmaps and the K-8 California’s Common Core Standards Parent Handbook. Your local district website may also have useful references and training schedules, as well.

These are times of great changes in public education, but one thing that is unlikely to change, is that most African American students do not perform well in school as measured by standardized tests, unless they happen to be enrolled in a school with extraordinary commitment dedicated to their success-- similar to the ones mentioned above. Even so, schools can be more effective with your children when you demonstrate commitment to their attendance, timely arrival, behavior while at school, attention to homework, and praise them when they succeed. I have suggested that you also need to be an advocate for them when the school or district is planning to implement new instructional and assessment programs.

Our children are our future; we must provide them every opportunity to be the best they can be.
Inland Area Kwanzaa Group presents the

47th Annual Kwanzaa Karamu

In celebration of Family, Community and Culture

Saturday, December 28, 2013
Rialto Senior Center
1141 Riverside Ave,
Rialto, CA 92376
Ingathering 4:00 P.M.

Tickets: $10.00 per person, $70.00 per Table of 8

For Tickets Please Call: Ratibu Jacocks or Amina Carter at 909-820-4406
Or email: Ratibu@ef-cbs.com or Amina@ef-cbs.com

Proceeds from the event go to support the Black Students Leadership Alliance and Scholarships