# News & Views The monthly news beat and photo album of African-American Communities in Northern California's Mid-Central Valley+

Volume 5, NEWS & VIEWS

www.cvdrumnews.weebly.com

August/September 2009

## Does UC-Merced want African-American Studies?



Hundreds of University of California students from Berkeley, UCLA, San Diego, Irvine, Davis, Santa Barbara, Riverside, Santa Cruz and Merced joined together at the 2009 ABC (African-Black Coalition) Conference at UC-Merced this past May.

"CV Drum News: A fresh antidote to San Francisco, San Jose and Oakland"

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#### IN EACH MONTHLY ISSUE

News Statistics Race & Racism Re-empowerment Community Calendars Humor Lots of Photos Monthly Topics Building Community History/Commentary US Postage Goes Here

## Vital Statistics

## ...qualitative

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WORLDWIDE

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Our Corrections Policy: Please contact us immediately if you see any published inaccuracies.

## ...quantitative

## Did you know...?



...that had it not been for racial discrimination against African-Americans, there would likely be no University of California system? How many of you are familiar with the 1st and 2nd Morrill Acts (1862 and 1890) that created land grant colleges throughout the United States? The University of California, founded in 1868, is a land grant institution.

**Provision Six of the 1862 Morrill Act stated**, "No State while in a condition of rebellion or insurrection against the government of the United States shall be entitled to the benefit of this act." This was a direct shot at the nation's Confederate states planning to secede from the Union. This provision was also considered by many experts to be the deal sealer for legislation that had been stalled numerous times in the past.

Under the 1862 act, each eligible state received a total of 30,000 acres (121 km) of federal land, either within or contiguous to its boundaries, for each member of congress the state had as of the census of 1860. This land, or the proceeds from its sale, was to be used toward establishing and funding educational institutions that would educate people in agriculture, home economics, mechanical arts, and other professions that were practical at the time. The second Morrill Act (1890) was aimed at benefitting the former Confederate states.

The University of California has improved the lives of millions of Californians and, with the presence of its newest member UC-Merced, is now positioned to continue to be of interest to thousands of the brightest high school students throughout the Central Valley, California and the nation. However, at this crucial time in the youthful existence of UC-Merced, **it seems only fair and reasonable** that within the next 3-5 years it initiates an African-American Studies program. In fact African-American Studies should be offered at each of the UC campuses, and not just some.

**At UC-Merced, the time is right** to place African-American Studies along side the following programs: \* Arts \* GASP \* Media Arts \* Spanish \* World Heritage \* Writing, or as a B.A. or B.S. degree within the university's School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts.

This past May the entire UC system received a ton of publicity from the participa-

tion of the nation's First Lady Michelle Obama as the commencement speaker at UC-Merced. Did you know that Michelle Obama minored in African-American Studies at Princeton University, and this very practical discipline seems to have served her quite well.

Will it take a massive writing campaign like that which brought Mrs. Obama to UC-Merced to persuade the regents to do the right thing or will it be led by the annual ABC Conference participants or will the system now just remember and honor its origins? *The CV Drum News* is raising these questions. **What do you think? What will you do?** 



"...quantitative" is researched and provided through The Civic Globe polling and news (a CV Drum sister service).

It is now official; each time you are featured or mentioned in the CV Drum News, over 1/2 million people have access to your story.

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#### Stomp Out Global Warming for Future Generations

A big footprint is good only if you're an NBA star and a big "carbon footprint" is never good. That's because the bigger your carbon footprint, the more you are contributing to global warming. Using energy in our daily lives generates greenhouse gas emissions and these gases act like a blanket, trapping heat near the Earth's surface, creating global warming. Scientists warn that global warming causes serious impacts to the environment, so reducing your carbon footprint is very important.



#### Calculate Your Carbon Footprint.

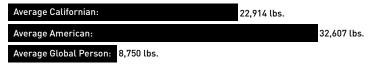
Your carbon footprint is a measure of your impact on the environment,

in terms of the carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  emitted as a result of your daily activity. It relates to the amount of greenhouse gases produced through burning fossil fuels for electricity, heating and transportation. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) can help you calculate your carbon footprint from the energy you use and the vehicle you drive. Just go to <a href="https://www.pge.com/carbonfootprint">www.pge.com/carbonfootprint</a> to estimate your carbon footprint. Be prepared to indicate your monthly electric (kWh/month) and natural gas (therms/month) usage, as indicated on your utility bills, as well as the miles driven per year and miles per gallon of gas.

#### How Do You Measure Up?

Once you calculate your carbon footprint, how do you compare to these carbon footprints?

Estimated Pounds of CO, per Year



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Approximately half of the electricity PG&E delivers is carbon free, so we are already helping to reduce your carbon footprint. But we all have room for improvement. Consider the following steps to help reduce your impact on the environment:

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To learn more about your carbon footprint, visit www.wecandothis.com or contact the Smarter Energy Line at 1-800-933-9555.



## Featured Patrons

## Fifty-Four Years Together



Congratulations to retired Col. & Mrs. Cleveland & Doris Edwards of Stockton, who celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. They have been long time community leaders and supporters of the CV Drum News and many other groups.

#### Other CV Drum Patrons featured this month:

St. Matthew Baptist Church (Merced), Roland Hart, M.D. (Stockton physician), Manteca Unified School District, Benjamin & Janie Reddish (Stockton educators), Gallo Center for the Arts (Modesto), Barbara Lenoir (banking industry, Los Angeles). More patrons featured monthly.

#### Q: Who are CV Drum Patrons and how can I become one?

**A:** According to the TALO Leadership Theory©, from the moment Africans left Africa in mass during the Transatlantic slave trade (1520s - 1860s) and the earlier Arab slave trade (8th - 14th century), our leaders explicitly knew and consistently acted out the same leadership profiles that most of us today understand from the moment we leave our homes for work, worship, study or business. Today, patrons are individuals and organizations of all ethnicities who contribute \$275 and more to the CV Drum's leadership and journalism efforts during one fiscal year. Patrons receive a 14-month subscription and will be listed in the Drum and/or on our Web site. If you are interested in subscribing, being a patron or advertising in the Drum, please call, email, write or visit our Web site.

#### **Subscriptions Begin Within 3 Weeks**

Name	/ Title		
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	only \$59 one-year individual subscription or ( \$69 bill me) only \$99 two-year individual subscription or ( \$109 bill me) only \$275 CV Drum Individual <b>Patron*</b>		
	\$350 Couples/Family P \$525 Non-Profit Group \$925 For-Profit Group I Well-wisher	Patron*	BIRTHDAY INFO (OPTIONAL)  Month  Day of Mth

#### Happy Anniversary Humor

A man and his wife, now in their 60's, were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. On their special day a good fairy came to them and said that because they had been so good that each one of them could have one wish.

The wife wished for a trip around the world with her husband. Whoosh! Immediately she had airline/cruise tickets in her hands.

The man wished for a female companion 30 years younger... Whoosh... immediately he turned ninety!!!

Gotta love that fairy!



<sup>\*</sup> Patron status includes 14-month subscription and featured in newsletter (and/or Website)

## CV Celebrations in the African Tradition:

Births, Birthdays, Engagements, Weddings, Graduations, Anniversaries, Career Promotions, Retirements ... and more!

Send us your announcements by the 2nd Wed. of the month - cvcelebrations@gmail.com

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

**August 3** - Lula Powell (Atwater), **August 3** - Linda Millett (Redding), **August 3** - Damali Robertson (Hayward), **August 13** - Barbara J. Lenoir (Los Angeles), **August 16** - Essie Gor-

don (Atwater), **August 22** - Dr. Elliott Chambers (Lodi), **September 11** - Dorothy L. Jones (Stockton), **September 12** - Dr. Mamie R. Darlington (Douglasville, GA), **September 13** - Jennet Stebbins (Stockton), **September 14** - Pamela Freeman (Stockton), **September 14** - Dr. Patricia Eaton Holder (Tracy), **September 25** - Norris Cooper (Stockton),

October 4 - Nasheed Zarif (Stockton), October 5 - Milton Dunn, Sr., (Hollis,



Damali Robertson Hayward

October 9 - Helen (Merced), October - Kim Obanor (Elk (Raleigh, NC), Octo-(Modesto), October (Merced), Octo-(Roanoke, VA), Octo-Atonement & Million October 22 - Hon. (Stockton), October (Redding), October



Dr. Patricia Eaton Holder Tracy

son (Manteca), October 28 - Allison Carr-Muhammad (Stockton).

October 5 - Luther Dunn, Jr. (San Jose), NY), October 8 - James Daily (Elk Grove), Smith (Stockton), October 13 - Mary Ellis 15 - Deanna Cosby (Merced), October 15 Grove), October 16 - Rev. Gayle H. Johnson

ber 16 - Lavina Lockamy

16 - Loretta Spence

ber 16 - Patricia West

ber 16 - Annual Day of

Man March Anniversary, Lauren Thompson

28 - Rev. Mack Harris

20 - Saphine Thomp-







#### Mrs. Isaac Lowe:

A legend in the North Valley

Although in the past year Mrs. Lowe has received national acclaim that has surpassed her legendary activist status in the Redding area, it has taken a mighty effort by her and other community activists like Pat Sansom, Redding NAACP president, to make sure that the City of Redding fairly treats African-American employees and youth who depend on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for cultural support. The City terminated two popular African-American workers there and cut back services at the site.



Stockton physician **Moses Elam** (second from the left) proudly stands with his wife **Marcia** and other national representatives of Sigma Pi Phi fraternity, the oldest African-American Greek-letter organization, during the chartering ceremony for the Stockton/Central Valley member Boule. Dr. Elam serves as president of the Stockton/Central Valley chapter. For more on the local chapter see the two most recent issues of the CV Drum News.

# Stockton Area What's Good...



We list events that will happen for next two months in your area, so send information to us ASAP. Call, email or mail.

#### Wednesday, October 28th

HBCU Tour Parents/Guardians & Students Orientation Meeting - Bear Creek High School (LUSD) -BCHS Cafeteria, 10500 Thornton Road, Stockton. - 7 p.m.

The historically Black Colleges and Universities Tour provides a unique opportunity to experience first-hand some of our finest historically black colleges and universities.

For additional information, contact Ms. Barbara Evans at (916) 591-8558 (after 6:00 p.m.); email: bemea@surewest. net or website: www.ucanhbcutour.com.

#### Save the Date:

Saturday, December 12

Annual Esquire Club Christmas Ball **Hutchins Street Square** 

#### Lodi

For more events and great advertisers, go to: www.cvdrumnews.weebly.com

#### Low African-American enrollments in 8 of 10 **Top 4-Year Central Valley Colleges and Universities**

- 1. University of California Davis less than 3%
- 2. University of California Merced less than 7%
- 3. Chapman University (main campus) less than 3%
- 4. University of the Pacific Stockton less than 3%
  - 5. Fresno State University less than 7%
  - 6. Sacramento State University less than 7%
    - 7. Chico State University less than 3%
    - 8. Fresno Pacific University less than 3%
- 9. National University (main campus) less than 11% 10. University of Phoenix (total campuses) - cc25%

#### This guy is city manager material!



Be the first non-Stockton resident to name this former Stockton deputy city manager, and his wife, and win three free months of the CV Drum News. During the summer the African-American community rallied around him and publicly, loudly and forcefully supported his tenure with the city.

Is it true that there are over 100 African-American churches in Stockton? But the question is; are they all pulling on the same end of the spiritual rope?

Terry's Massage Wellness Center http://www.terrysmassagewellnesscenter.com/ (209) 271-9612 office - (209) 952-1883 cell

# Elk Grove Area

# What's Good ...



We list events that will happen for next two months in your area, so send information to us ASAP. Call, email or mail.

#### September 12th

Sacramento Congress of African Peoples (CAP)
7th Annual Congress of African Peoples' Convening
3555 3rd Ave - Sacramento
Tix/Info: (916) 484-5025

#### September 25th

#### **Bridging the Gap**

The Hidden African Divide discussions group presents a Black Night Cultural Event from 6 - 10 p.m. at the Women's Civic Improvement Center (WCIC), 3555 3rd Avenue, Sacramento

For more info: philnel@earthlink.net

#### Thursday, October 29th

HBCU Tour Parents/Guardians & Students Orientation Meeting - Valley High School (EGUSD) -Multipurpose Rm, 6300 Ehrhardt Avenue, Sac, 7 p.m.

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Tour provides a unique opportunity to experience first-hand some of our finest historically black colleges and universities.

For additional information, contact Ms. Barbara Evans at (916) 591-8558 (after 6:00 p.m.); email: bemea@surewest. net or website: www.ucanhbcutour.com.

Brionna Lewis' Senior Project http://dearyounggirl.blogspot.com/

Brionna is a member of the CV Drum News SAT Team (Student Ambassadors Team)

Purchase the CV Drum at Carol's Bookstore, Sacramento, 1913 Del Paso Blvd (916) 646-6525

## Have you re-newed your state chamber membership yet?

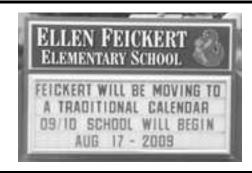
http://www.calbcc.org/

Under the leadership of **Mr. Aubry Stone**, the California Black Chamber of Commerce is the largest African-American non-profit business organization representing hundreds of small and emerging businesses, affiliates and chambers of commerce throughout the state.

It just successfully held its main event and major fundraiser for the Chamber & Chamber Foundation at the Wyndham Hotel in San Jose. The Ron Brown Business Economic Summit addressed

supplier diversity issues, corporate matching efforts, state and federal contracting & procurement opportunities. Its Youth Entrepreneur Summit & Scholarship Awards climaxed the Ron Brown Memorial event topped off with exceptional world renowned entertainment.





#### Who is this bright young man?



He is now enrolled at one of the top liberal arts colleges in the country -- Pomona College of the Claremont Colleges in Southern California. Be the first person to identify him and win 3 free months of the CV Drum News. (209) 473-4687.

## Central Page...

#### **Monthly Media Message**

Keith Orlando Hilton, Ph.D.

## Defining guerilla journalism by Jewels Boone

(San Francisco State '12) CV Drum News Student Ambassador



Guerrilla journalism goes by quite a few different names - the most common of which is "investigative" journalism. However, although guerrilla journalism sounds like a novel idea, it's not.

What is known today as guerrilla journalism was known in the late 1800s/early 1900s as muckraking. These journalists got their names because they would expose all of the sordid details about corrupt politicians. Now-a-days, the work, though noble in name, fringes heavily on the unethical.

One established journalist commented that in some cases, when so-called investigative journalists are working on a story, they employ the methods of ambush journalism (stalking and then ambushing their lead in order to question them), asking unsavory and inappropriate questions, and even resorting to slander and libel when they don't get the answers they want. This can be very damaging to their subjects. However, don't take the negative aspects out of



proportion. Though few in number, true guerrilla journalists do exist and are true to their cause.

KOH, Ph.D., CV Drum News Editor

#### Calling all researchers in the Central Valley and beyond

If you have research ideas that you wish to publish, take a good look at our sister publication, "The Journal of Unabridged Genius"

www.geniusjournal.weebly.com



Here are some of the first researchers to publish in the CV Drum News' sister publication.

**Uduak Oduok** (J.D. - U.C.Hastings College of Law). Article: The Urgency of Now: Putting Nigeria's Fashion Industry on the Global Map

Gaye Walton-Price (Ph.D. Georgetown University; M.A.R. from Yale Divinity School). Article: In response to "The Secrets of the TALO Leadership Theory:

Leadership might be colorblind, but ethnicity is central!"



**David D. Hurst** (Ph.D. Claremont School of Theology). Article: What the Obama inauguration means to me: "A theological perspective"



Gloria Willingham-Toure' (Ph.D. Claremont Graduate University). Article: Nursing, Change, and Race: Intersections with the TALO Leadership Theory



**Melda Gaskins** (Ed.D. University of LaVerne). Article: Updated Reflections on African-American Female Leadership





# ...CentralValley

#### Who is this man working the Stockton mic?



**Bro. Tommie Muhammad** of Stockton (who is actually speaking to the audience, not singing at Paragary's) has literally singlehandedly brought great jazz back to Stockton. Through his promotional efforts, Stocktonians have discovered that they don't have to go all the way to the Bay Area for the real deal. Mr. Muhammad is also founder and president of the Inner City Theatre.

Below is **Máteenah Floyd-Okanlawon** (left), the host of "Cultural Connection" on Stockton's Public Access TV Comcast SJTV 26 with local guitarist **Doug Martin**. Martin was the featured entertainer at this summer's "Good Folks" affair that Floyd-Okanlawon annually puts on in Stockton.



**First 5 California** approves \$81.4 million contribution to help restore **Healthy Families** program's viability

(Funds cover health care costs for kids under 5, including under-served African American children)

(Sacramento) – The First 5 California State Commission recently approved a contribution of up to \$81.4 million to the Healthy Families Program today to cover health care costs for more than 200,000 infants and children at risk of losing coverage due to the state's fiscal crisis. The funding, approved at a special commission meeting held earlier today, will be used to cover children ages 0-5 through June 2010.

"In the current economy, now more than ever, families rely on affordable health care to keep their children healthy and safe," said Kris Perry, executive director of First 5 California. "We encourage like-minded partners to come forward with assistance to ensure the program's survival."

The Healthy Families Program, administered by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB), provides low-cost medical insurance to more than 1.1 million low-income children in families not qualified for Medi-Cal. However, the program's future has been uncertain after statewide budget cuts have left it facing a more than \$190 million shortfall. This poses a particular threat to California's at-risk children, including those in African American families.

"The availability of preventive care helps keep children out of emergency rooms and can even make a difference in how well they can perform in school," said Dave Kears, First 5 California commission vice chair. "That's why improving access to affordable children's health care has always been a part of the core mission of First 5 California."

Since voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, First 5 California has spent millions on children's health insurance – placing it among the largest and most stable funding sources of health coverage for children up to age 5 in California.

Most recently, First 5 California partnered with First 5 county commissions to provide \$16.75 million to MRMIB to pay health care premiums for children up to age 5 enrolling in the Healthy Families Program. That contribution kept 67,000 children from being placed on waiting lists for health coverage in the fiscal year ending June 30.

#### About First 5 California

Also known as the California Children and Families Commission, was established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, child care and other programs for expectant parents and children up to age 5. For more information, please visit first5california. com/parents.

# Tracy Area What's Good...



We list events that will happen for next two months in your area. so send information to us ASAP. Call, email or mail.

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It is the policy of the City of Tracy to provide equal opportunity in employment for all persons to prohibit discrimination in employment. The City shall not discriminate against qualified employees or applicants for employment on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by law. The City shall afford equal employment opportunity to all qualified applicants or employees with respect to compensation and all terms and conditions of employment, including hiring, training, promotion, transfer, discipline, and termination.

The first issue/episode of the CV Drum News was July 2005

Help us keep our online calendar of events current! go to:

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Tracy City Council meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Special meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis by the City Council. Meetings are held at the Council Chambers at City Hall, 333 Civic Center Plaza. Regular meeting agendas are published at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Special meeting agendas are published at least 24 hours in advance. Current agendas are available online. Agendas of all Council meetings are also available for public viewing at:

\* Tracy Public Library, 20 East Eaton Avenue

\* City Hall, 333 Civic Center Plaza

#### Today "M.C." also means "Man of Christ"



Tracy's very own **Rev. Stanley** Kirk Burrell is best known by his stage names MC Hammer, Hammer and Hammertime.

San Joaquin Delta College's South Campus at Mountain House officially opened its doors for business on Monday, July 27th. The campus is located at 2073 South Central Parkway at Mountain House. As of September, over 2,000 student are enrolled at the Mountain Hose campus.

#### The musical "Tracy, Our Town USA"

Sept. 18-20 - the Grand Theatre Center of the Arts 715 Central Avenue

"It has been my honor and a blessing to write the musical 'Tracy, Our Town USA'. This year it has been a special treat for me to commemorate the contributions, the courage, and the character of a number of women who have left their mark on our town.

"There are many women in our shared civic history that I admire and a number who are serving as my current inspiration. But on September 18, 19, and 20th at the Grand Theatre Center of the Arts you can share in a small tribute to seven (7) women whose stories are an integral part of Tracy history; a history we should work together to share and remember. You will know some of these ladies. Some will be new to you. But I guarantee that you will remember each of them long after this production has ended. Please attend. Your attendance supports the Tracy Performing Arts Foundation."

#### **Evelyn Tolbert**

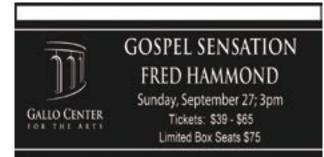
www.tolbertfortracv.com

# Modesto Area

# What's Good ...

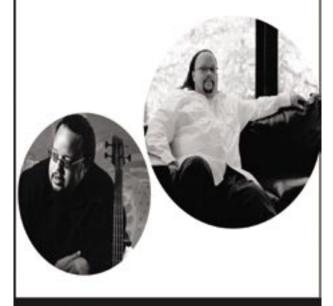


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# OVER SEVEN MILLION ALBUMS SOLD!

Few gospel artists can boast the consistency of sales, radio airplay, and concert appearances that Fred Hammond has has achieved over the course of his career. As a mainstay on Billboard's Gospel Chart Top 10, Hammond has frequently appeared on magazine's Heatseekers and Music Video Sales charts. This show will lift you up!



TICKETS: (209) 338-3145 GALLOARTS.ORG 1000 | Street Downtown Modesto

#### Where does Modesto Junior College go from here?

During the summer in a special closed-door meeting, Yosemite Community College District trustees voted 6-0 not to extend the contract of MJC **President Richard Rose** (below) beyond June 2010. Dr. Rose has been president since 2006. He is the latest of three MJC presidents who have lasted only a few years, leading to instability college officials and community leaders say they want to end. Rose followed Dr. Jim

Williams and Dr. Bill Scroggins, who served about two years each.

In 2007 faculty members at Modesto Junior College also voted no confidence in the leadership of President Rose. According to college faculty reports, professors said that the president did not include them in key decisions.

To Dr. Rose's credit, it should be noted that during this time, he was still successfully creating needed college procedures



and rules where they had not existed, and in some cases were resisted by some of the same faculty who led the charge for his dismissal and the earlier dismissals of Williams and Scroggins. So the question also needs to be asked about the faculty leadership culture at MJC.

When asked by several local African-American community leaders, all of them said that racism is a big factor at MJC, however, they also felt that President Rose could have reached out to the black community more than he did.

For the past three years, readers and subscribers of the CV Drum News chose Dr. Rose as one of the top ten African-American leaders (PIVs) in the Modesto area.

#### ...and the need still exists for TALO Leadership Theory training in Modesto educational circles!

The TALO Leadership Theory suggests that for all people, an understanding of the pan-human African experience and ethnic identification are fundamental to understanding leadership knowledges and desired proficiencies within organizations. Leadership knowledges include skills, values, attitudes, beliefs, resources, programs and tools across an organization in support of its mission.

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# Merced Area What's Good...



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### **September 12th (Saturday)**

The Ebony Socialites of Atwater are hosting their Ninth Annual Golf Classic

Onsite registration is 6:30 a.m, with a 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. Registration between August 2 - September 1 is only \$75. Lunch only guests, served at the golf course, is \$10. The golf classic takes place at the Rancho Del Rey Golf Course (RDRGC) in Atwater.

For more information call Mary Jones: (209) 769-2728. Proceeds support Ebony Socialites' Scholarships & Community Service Projects.

Help us keep our online calendar of events current! go to:

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#### One of the CV Drum News' favorite Central Valley organizations - can you name the group?



#### **UC Merced prides itself on being...**

...the first new American research university in the 21st century, with a mission of teaching, research and service. Today at the very least, its curriculum should reflect the history and future of African-Americans in the Central Valley and to the UC System. The campus opened September 5, 2005. It seems more than reasonable that clear-headed and open minded academics, with input from the community, would now introduce a state-of-theart public university African-American Studies program.

#### The following public universities have graduate progams in **African-American Studies**

Temple University, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, University of California-Berkeley, Michigan State University, Virginia Tech, Florida International University, Georgia State University, Indiana University, The Ohio State University, State University of New York, Albany, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Iowa, University of Louisville, University of Wisconsin, Madison

## Bay Area | Sacramento | Northern California

## California and the Stimulus Plan

Valifornia is expected to receive billions of dollars in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that's designed to generate or save 421,000 jobs in the state over the next two years.

How does California plan to spend its share of stimulus dollars? According to California's Economic Recovery Portal, the funds will be allocated to health and human services, education, infrastructure, labor, energy/climate, science and technology, housing, and public safety. Among the first to receive funds will be shovel-ready projects, or those projects that are ready or nearly ready to be started.

A familiar discriminatory pattern was emerging that showed most African-American businesses, workers and communities were being slighted, however thanks to the effort of several grassroots and business savvy groups, more African-Americans should also benefit.

#### Two examples of shovel ready Stockton projects...

#### North Stockton I-5 Mainline Widening

Location: Stockton \* Project category: Streets/Roads \* 5,200 jobs \* \$134,000,000

## North Stockton Railroad Grade

Separations & Bridge Replacements

\* Location: Stockton \* Project category: Streets/Roads \* 3,900 jobs \* \$73,000,000

Five Bay Area colleges have African-American presidents!

## Census 2010:

Will you be counted?
Will it matter?

Did you know that the fastest growing population within the Hispanic community are Afro-Latinos?

## Southern California | The Nation | The World



Making the Internet rounds is this White House photo of the Obama family with the Marley family (of the late reggae legend Bob Marley fame). Marley's wife, Rita, is second from the left.

#### The Nation's first Afro-Latina **Supreme Court Justice**

This is another historic moment in U.S., Puerto Rican, African, and Afro-Latina history as the first black woman, Sonia Sotomayer, was sworn in as an associate judge on the United States Supreme Court. Sotomayor, 55, is of Afro-Puerto Rican descent

and was born in the Bronx, New York City.



Her father, Juan Sotomayor, died when she was nine, and she was subsequently raised by her mother, Celina Báez. Sotomayor graduated with an A.B., summa cum laude, from Princeton University in 1976 and received her J.D. from Yale Law School in 1979, where she was an editor at the Yale Law Journal. Although her African roots are down played by the general media, it is important that African oriented media outlets keep the record straight and spread the good news.

## Race & Racism





#### NAACP Supports bill to outlaw "Vulture funds"

A "vulture fund" is a private company that buys up the debt of poor countries at a big discount from the original owner with the purpose of suing the indebted country in court once it has some money (often after debt cancellation). This practice comes at the expense of the citizens of these indebted countries — some of the most impoverished people in the world — as well as taxpayers in countries like the United States, who bear part of the cost.

There are a number of countries that continue to face crippling debt throughout the world. Debt cancellation gives impoverished countries a chance to start fresh and spend more money on health, education, and other essential social services.



The actions of several unethical vulture funds are threatening to undo some of the hard-won gains of the international campaign for impoverished country debt cancellation. For example, in 2007 one such vulture fund won \$15 million from Zambia, money that was freed up by debt relief and should have been used for the fight against HIV/AIDS and poverty. Zambia was not alone.

To assist in this struggle, Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA) and others have introduced H.R. 2932, the "Stop Very Unscrupulous Loan Transfers from Underprivileged Countries to Rich, Exploitive Funds Act" or the "Stop VULTURE Funds Act". This legislation would prohibit any U.S. person from engaging in debt profiteering at the expense of another nation and would prohibit any U.S. Court from issuing a judgment which would further debt profiteering.

The CV Drum News welcomes letters, pro and con, to essays and information in this, and every episode. **CVDrumnews@gmail.com** 

## Joining the Ancestors

In the spirit of our Acknowledged African ancestors, each month we will honor community and family members who have recently passed in the Mid-Central Valley (and if space allows, relatives outside of the Valley). Space is limited. Send us your full announcements with photos by the second Wednesday of the month for publication consideration. This month's page is dedicated to: **Thompson Memorial Chapel** and Cooley's Funeral Service, both in Stockton.



#### **August is National Immunization Awareness Month**

Contact: Sue Holderman, RN, Immunization Coordinator, (530) 229-8463

Shasta County - August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month, and Shasta County Public Health wants to remind the public about the importance of immunizations across the life span, from infants to the elderly. Since August is when parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college, and healthcare workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season, it is the perfect time to remind family, friends, and co-workers to catch up on their immunizations. Immunizations are one of the most significant public

health achievements of the twentieth century. Vaccines have eradicated smallpox, eliminated wild poliovirus in the U.S. and significantly reduced the number of cases of measles, diphtheria, rubella and pertussis.



The CV Drum is the only African-American owned (and the only) publication period that covers our communities from Merced south to Redding north.

## CV Community Conversation

# This Month's Guest Essayist/Essay Brenda Perry of Stockton (Cancer Survivor)

On Saturday, October 13, 2007, we went to the Sam Pannell Center in Sacramento for the Imani Breast Health Education and Support Group's 10th Annual Celebration of Life. I have been a member since 2000, when I participated in their calendar project. They were also known as the African-American Task Force.



My husband James, my daughter Sharee, and my sister Darlene, were my honorees for being the "Wind Beneath My Wings" in my personal celebration of life for their support of me during my ordeal eight years earlier. I am a 12 year survivor of breast cancer.

I presented James with a certificate and Sharee received a pretty, pink-striped scarf with Breast Cancer Awareness pink ribbons (available at St. Joseph's Gift Center) and "Recipes for Life," a book created by Shades of Survivorship Breast Cancer Support and Outreach Education Program. I have been a member of Shades since 1999.

When I was told in 1997 that my mammogram was abnormal - I ignored it. I did not have any lumps and therefore felt I had nothing to worry about. When I was told once again in 1998 that my mammogram was abnormal, I checked it out.

You see, there had always been calcification (in the x-rays it looked like stitches going south to north) on the right side of my chest. I had been told in previous years that it was nothing to worry about. I did not tell James or anyone else.

When I talked with the PA nurse and eventually Dr. Hudlin, who was to be my surgeon, I was told that the calcification was starting to "V" up. And they wanted to do a biopsy. So I went for the biopsy. I was told there would be some pain and I would feel a pinch, but had to be done.

On the day that I had the biopsy, the attendant left me alone to prepare. I began to pray. I prayed wholeheartedly to GOD for whole body healing, to my ancestors-one of which was a cousin who had had a double mastectomy and eventually died from later complications, and I prayed in the Spirit.

I felt comforted as a golden aura took over the room and I felt the peace of GOD that truly surpasses all understanding. The pinch that she said I would feel -- I never felt it. The pain she said I would feel -- I never felt it. Praise be to GOD who is

the head of my life. I did not tell James or anyone else. I was called to Dr. Hudlin's office and he told me that the biopsy did reveal that I did indeed have breast cancer in my right breast. So now... the question is, "Have you had your physical this year? Have you had your mammogram?"

If you are interested in being a guest essayist for CV Community Conversation, please submit your 300-400 word essay on any relevant community or Valley topic, along with your photo and brief bio.

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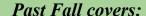
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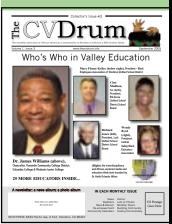
Got a photo, story idea, letter or even a poem that you would like published? See page one or email us for general ideas and topics. Then send it to us for consideration. Remember, we run photos and cover topics important to you. All items must be submitted by second Wednesdays to be considered for the upcoming issue. Please include names/information with photos. Materials will remain property of the CV Drum. Submit via mail — 6333 Pacific Avenue, #512, Stockton, CA 95207 — or email — cvdrumnews@gmail.com (subject line: "CV Submission"). · KOH, Ph.D.

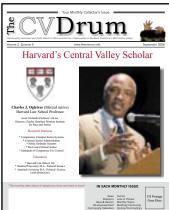


## The CV Photo Gallery

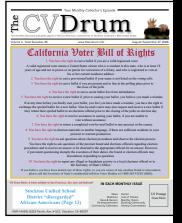














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