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Federal Prosecutors Weigh Hate Crime Charges in Arbery Death

By Russ Bynum | Associated Press



In this Friday, May 8, 2020, file photo, people pray during a rally to protest the shooting of Ahmaud Arbery, an unarmed black man in Brunswick Ga. Georgia's attorney general on Sunday asked the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the handling of the killing of Arbery, who authorities say died at the hands of two white men as he ran through a neighborhood. (AP Photo/John Bazemore, File)

The Justice Department said Monday that federal prosecutors are weighing possible hate crime charges in the slaying of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man gunned down after being pursued by two armed White men in a Georgia subdivision.

Arbery was fatally shot February 23 by a father and son who told police they chased him because they believed he was a burglar. They were ar-

rested last week, more than two months later, on charges of felony murder and aggravated assault after video of the shooting appeared online.

Georgia has no hate crime law: Attorneys for Arbery's parents and others, including Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr and the Southern Poverty Law Center, have asked for a federal investigation. Georgia has no hate

crime law allowing charges at the state level.

"We are assessing all of the evidence to determine whether federal hate crimes charges are appropriate," Justice Department spokeswoman Kerri Kupec said in a statement Monday.

Previously, a Justice Department spokesman had said the

See "Federal Pros..." page 6

Little Richard Leaves the World at 87-Years of Age

By Kristin M. Hall, Associated Press



Little Richard, the self-proclaimed "architect of rock 'n' roll" whose piercing wail, pounding piano and towering pompadour irrevocably altered popular music while introducing black R&B to white America, died Saturday. He was 87.

Pastor Bill Minson, a close friend of Little Richard's, told The Associated Press that Little Richard died Saturday morning. His son, Danny Jones Penniman, also confirmed his father's death, which was first reported by

Rolling Stone.

Danny Jones Penniman said his father had cancer.

Born Richard Penniman, Little Richard was one of rock'n'roll's founding fathers who helped shatter the color line on the music charts, joining Chuck Berry and Fats Domino in bringing what was once called "race music" into the mainstream.

Richard's hyperkinetic piano playing, coupled with his howling vocals and hairdo,

See "Little Richar..." page 6

BottomLine

Publisher's Commentary by Wallace J Allen IV

How to Know When It Is Safe to Go Back to Work

It will probably be safe to group and gather at work when City Councils, County Supervisors, School Boards, State Legislatures and Congress members begin meeting

face to face. When the Courts open up the courts. When the New York Stock Exchange opens the floor for trading. When the NBA, MLB and NFL team owners meet in

the same room to negotiate with their respective Players Union representatives. When the medical and scientific experts are comfortable meeting with the public in

person to discuss COVID-19. Until then, please continue to wash your hands, keep your distance, wear a mask, and evolve into the healthy lifestyle that will build your im-

mune system and help you fight off the virus!

SBCUSD Class Of 2020 Graduate Information



Below are the high school graduates and valedictorians for the 2020 school year. Congratulations to all of our graduates. Our hearts go out to you during these difficult times.

***Anderson School:** Graduates: Undetermined at this time

Arroyo Valley High School: Valedictorians: Veronica Banelos, Edward Dominic Castaneda, and Jesus Giselle Pantoja. Salutatorian: Natalie Luna. Graduates: 580*

Cajon High School: Valedictorians: Tomas Ascencion Flores, Randy Gerond Medley, Elysia Rios, Brad Joseph Bolluyt, Serenity Ngoc Chavez, Thu Anh Nguyen, Ryan Daniel Chapin, Trevor Allen Chapin, and Yulissa Guadalupe Sanchez. Salutatorians: Raziel Plata Serrato, Moremi Elize Olora, Saul Mercado, and Abigail Grace Willis. Graduates: 652*

Indian Springs High School: Valedictorian: Kyla Duhart. Salutatorian: Kacey Lam. Graduates: 376*

Inland Career Education Center (formerly San Bernardino Adult School): Graduates: 125*

Middle College High School: Valedictorians: Naeli Marie Mills and Adriana Toledo Calvillo. Salutatorians: Lester Cedeno, Antonia Lopez-Vega, and Samuel Rojo-Aguayo. Graduates: 62*

Pacific High School: Valedictorian: Valerie Gonzalez-Caloca. Salutatorian: Vanessa Gonzalez-Caloca. Graduates: 224*

San Andreas High School: Graduates: 220*

San Bernardino High School: Valedictorian: Remijia Plascencia. Salutatorians: Anthony Craddock and Jose Rosales-Torres. Graduates: 311*

San Gorgonio High School: Valedictorians: Matthew Jackson, Henry Luu, and Jeffry Umana. Salutatorians: Maia Garcia and Dennis Phan. Graduates: 400*

Sierra High School: Graduates: 200*

Approximately 3,150 San Bernardino City Unified School District students will receive their high school diplomas or GED certification this year. This does not include those graduating from vocational programs.

**Side Note: Anderson serves students ages 12 to 22 with a variety of physical and intellectual challenges. Graduates receive a certificate of completion, not a high school diploma. Graduate counts are approximate at this time.*

PCA Virtual Summer School NOW ENROLLING



Pal Charter Academy is a grade 6th to 12th (PCA) is now registering students for Virtual Summer School. PCA is a grade 6th to 12th charter academy. Students may take up to three classes. Please call today at (909) 887-7002 to register your student. For other information and school updates, visit www.palcenter.org/summerschool.

California, we need to stay home to save lives!

If we do not stay home, the spread of COVID-19 will get worse. We will get through this together by staying away from each other. We should only leave our homes to get food, get necessary health care, or go to an essential job. Always use social distancing when going out by staying six feet away from everyone. Go to covid19-dot-c-a-dot-gov for the latest updates you need during this time.

This public health emergency has taught us that it is never too soon to be prepared. If this pandemic has taught us anything is that, we have to be prepared. And, we have all learned the value of storing a little extra food and supplies at home in advance, to take care of our needs.


Don't get caught by surprise again. Use your time at home to get ready for other disasters, like a wildfire, earthquake and flood. Get ready today by taking these easy and free steps:

- Get official alerts to know what to do – Sign up to receive regional alerts should a natural disaster or other emergency situation arise in your area. If you work in one county, but you live in another, you can sign up for both. Visit <http://calalerts.org/>
- Make a plan to protect your people – Think about who you want to connect with during an emergency. These may be family, neighbors, friends or caregivers. Who do you want to protect? Who wants to protect you? Write down their names and contact information on any clean sheet of paper. Include home, work, school and other numbers. Share copies with everyone on your list.
- Pack a go-bag with things you need – You can never be too prepared for a disaster. Pack a go bag with things you need. Include copies of IDs and insurance, a map of area evacuation routes and a list of your prescriptions and doctors. This will help save time should you need to leave your home, like in response to a wildfire.
- Pack a stay box – With supplies for when you can't leave - You've already learned what food and other things you need for at least two weeks at home during a pandemic. With other disasters like earthquakes, you might lose electricity or water and need a portable radio, flashlights and batteries, drinkable water and a first aid kit.

Consider what other items you may need for yourself and others during this time, from the basics, essentials, to caring for your pets.

- Help friends and neighbors – Talk about your emergency plans with loved ones and encourage them to do the same. Reach out and connect via an email, make a phone call, or send a text message to encourage those around you, to use this time to give some thought to and prepare for other possible disasters. We've learned from COVID-19 how important it is to be ready for any disaster. And, we know that wildfires, earthquakes and floods can still strike at any time. We can all get better prepared today for whatever may come tomorrow.

This public service message brought to you by the team helping Californians prepare for any disaster: Listos California For All (ListosCalifornia.Org) and Building Resilient Communities (brcus.org)




Riverside County Offers Growing List of Food Resources for Homebound Seniors

The services are meant to help vulnerable seniors fight food insecurity during COVID-19 pandemic



From quick meals that can be picked up to food dropped off at homes, Riverside County is offering several free food options to disabled and vulnerable adults as stay-at-home orders continue during the COVID-19 pandemic. Adults who have a disability or are over age 60 can contact Riverside County Office on Aging, which offers food delivery for critical emergencies, two weeks supply of pantry and essential items, home-delivered meals, and Grab-and-Go meal packages at community center locations. "We have a number of

programs, depending on our callers' needs and nutritional risk. We will tailor enrollment to any one or more of these important nutrition programs," said Gary Robbins, Deputy Director for Programs and Operations with Office on Aging. "We're averaging almost 1,200 calls a day at this point, and our requests for food have tripled. I'd encourage folks who want to find out more to visit the Office on Aging website or send us an email." Seniors or disabled adults can call 800-510-2020 or visit rcAging.org to determine their

need for any one of the following service options. Please view the options at www.wss-news.com.

Aguilar Announces Over \$1.1 Million for Inland Empire COVID-19 Testing

SAN BERNARDINO, CA--- Rep. Pete Aguilar announced \$1,121,862 to expand coronavirus testing capabilities in San Bernardino County. The funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will be distributed to three Inland Empire health care providers and agencies, with SAC Health System (SACHS) receiving \$640,264, Inland Behavioral and Health Services, Inc. (IBHS) receiving \$224,449 and the County of San Bernardino receiving \$257,149. "We know increased testing is one of the best ways to track and limit the spread of this virus, which is why the House worked to ensure additional funding for tests

in the last coronavirus relief bill. I'm proud to announce this funding, which will help more members of our community get tested and will play a major role in helping our community defeat this virus," said Rep. Aguilar. "Testing continues to be critical for our communities and patients," said Dr. Jason Lohr, CEO of SAC Health System. "We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with our local health plan and health department to provide COVID-19 testing to any IEHP member who needs it." "Inland Behavioral and Health Services, Inc. (IBHS) is grateful to Congressman Aguilar for his continued sup-

port. The Board of Directors and the Medical Team are planning on hosting both walk-up and drive-thru testing, with a focus on the uninsured populations, in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. IBHS is also in talks with our local churches to assist in offering the testing to the communities and to those staff members who wish to be tested," said Dr. Temetry Lindsey, CEO/President of IBHS. Rep. Aguilar serves as Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, the committee responsible for allocating funding to agencies like HRSA.

Available on Amazon Books

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&ref=ast_serie_ruthie%27s%27jewels&ref=ast_serie_ruthie%27s%27jewels&ref=ast_serie_ruthie%27s%27jewels

Ruthie's Jewels



Ruth Stevens grew up in a time and place where the seeds of kindness, stability and caring were planted by her parents and shaped the expression of her identity in an environment that nurtured her beginnings, so that today she enjoys the rewards of her journey. She created a smooth path to a life of love, despite traveling a rough road of hate-filled potholes. It was and continues to be, ever evolving onward and upward to a better yet to be.

Ruthie's Jewels

by Ruth L. Stevens | Feb 27, 2020
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Black Barbers, Beauty Professionals Push Gov.

Newsom to Reopen Their Shops

By Aldon Thomas Stiles | California Black Business



Lorenzo Griffin, CEO of Laran Products. Lorenzo is highly instrumental in distributing exclusive hair products to hair salons and barbershops (Facebook photo)

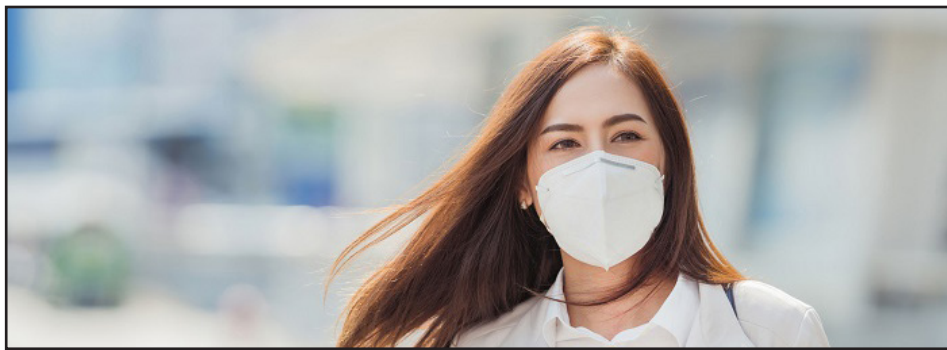
Two weeks ago, Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp drew sharp criticisms from African Americans across the country.

Black politicians, social media commenters, and others blasted the governor, saying his decision to lift his state's month-long stay-at-home order by first opening businesses such as: barbershops, nail salons, sneaker stores, tattoo parlors, gyms, and bowling alleys put the lives of Blacks at risk. Those are businesses African Americans frequent, his critics pointed out.

But unlike Georgia, California Gov. Gavin Newsom said businesses like barbershops, beauty shops, and nail salons will not be allowed to begin servicing their

See "Black B..." page 6

Face Coverings Now Optional, But Still Recommended



Face coverings are no longer required but are still strongly recommended in San Bernardino County as the result of new health order requested by the Board of Supervisors.

The new order repeals the April 23 omnibus health order that required face coverings as well as social distancing at essential businesses, and banned gatherings and short-term rentals.

Although no longer regulated by a county health order, gatherings and short-term rentals are still prohibited and social distancing at essential businesses are still required under the

state's "stay-at-home" order.

"The County strongly urges everyone to continue wearing face coverings in public to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and businesses may still require face coverings for customers and employees," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Curt Hagman. "But repealing the local health orders and deferring to the less-restrictive state orders will allow the County to reopen businesses more quickly as the governor continues to relax standards."

Many types of businesses were allowed to

reopen this week under certain conditions. The Board of Supervisors last Thursday adopted a Readiness and Reopening Plan and made plans to seek the governor's consent to open many other types of businesses next week. The board plans to discuss additional details on Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. That meeting can be viewed on the CountyDirect Broadcast Network at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/Main/Pages/ViewMeetings.aspx>.

Information related to COVID-19 in San Bernardino County can be found at <http://sb-covid19.com/>.

"It's a good time to get help."

Proven treatment for opioid addiction starts here.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the use of FDA-approved medications for the treatment of addiction to Fentanyl, heroin, opioid painkiller and other prescription pills. When coupled with counseling, MAT treats the whole patient and significantly reduces the rate of relapse. Medi-Cal, Medicare and many private insurance plans cover MAT. You can get MAT through a primary care doctor, licensed narcotic treatment programs, outpatient treatment programs, or licensed residential treatment facilities.

During the Coronavirus pandemic, MAT is also available through virtual care options, such as telephone, live video, audio, messaging, and other digital tools.

Find a proven treatment option that's right for you at ChooseMAT.org.

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Crafton Hills College to host Virtual Commencement

Exclusive Interview: Comedian and Actor, David A. Arnold, Helps Us Laugh Through the Coronavirus Pandemic

By Naomi K. Bonman



YUCAIPA, CA--- - Crafton Hills College will virtually celebrate the institutions 48th Annual Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 22, 2020 at 6 p.m. "We are proud of our graduates and hope they

will join us to celebrate their accomplishments at this virtual event," said Crafton Hills College President, Dr. Kevin Horan. "We also invite the Class of 2020 See "Crafton..." page 7

Comedy is the best medicine, especially in the times such as this with the Coronavirus pandemic. Comedian and actor, David A. Arnold's, stand-up, Fat Ballerina, couldn't have been released at an even better time such as this. A standup comic, actor and writer, David A. Arnold is triple threat in the world of comedy. As a comedian, he has

performed all around the country and made various tv appearances. He is known for his ART OF STANDDUP COMEDY (AOSC) master classes. For 11 years, he has taught the AOSC master classes to hundreds of novice and veteran comedians. The AOSC class covers everything from structuring a joke to finding your comedic

voice. Standouts among the many successful AOSC alumni include ABFF Comedy Wings Competition winners Zainab Johnson, Daphnique Springs and Amberia Allen, Tony Baker (Last Comic Standing), actors London Brown (HBO's BALLERS) and James Davis (Comedy Central's HOOD ADJACENT) as well as semi-finalist Jackie Fabulous

of AMERICA'S GOT TALENT. Currently, AOSC boasts a waiting list of more than 300 people. I recently interviewed Mr. Arnold where he chatted ore about his Netflix special, endeavors, and what inspired him to get into comedy. Read and listen to the interview at www.wss-news.com.

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Continued from the front page

Federal Prosecutors Weigh Hate Crime Charges in Arbery Death

FBI is assisting in the investigation and the department would assist if a federal crime is uncovered.

Feds considering investigating local police: Kupec's statement Monday also said the Justice Department was considering Carr's request for federal authorities to investigate how local police and prosecutors handled the case. She said Carr has been asked to "forward to federal authorities any informa-

tion that he has."

Gregory McMichael, 64, and his 34-year-old son, Travis McMichael, are jailed on charges of felony murder and aggravated assault in Arbery's slaying. Gregory McMichael is a former Glynn County police officer who later worked 20 years as an investigator for the local district attorney's office. He retired a year ago.

The father and son told police they thought Arbery matched the ap-

pearance of a burglary suspect who they said had been recorded on a surveillance camera some time before, according to the Glynn County police report filed after the shooting.

Arbery's mother, Wanda Cooper Jones, has said she thinks her 25-year-old son, a former high school football player, was just jogging in the neighborhood before he was killed.

Continued from the front page

Little Richard Leaves the World at 87-Years of Age

made him an implausible sensation — a gay, black man celebrated across America during the buttoned-down Eisenhower era.

He sold more than 30 million records worldwide, and his influence on other musicians was equally staggering, from the Beatles and Otis

Redding to Creedence Clearwater Revival and David Bowie.

To read more visit, www.wssnews.com.

Continued from page 4

Black Barbers, Beauty Professionals Push Gov. Newsom to Reopen Their Shops

customers again until the third phase of the Golden State's reopening plan.

"Phase three is not a year away. It's not six months away. It's not even three months away. It may not even be more than a month away," Newsom said at his daily press conference Friday. "We just want to make sure we have a protocol

in place to secure customer safety, employee safety, and allow the businesses to thrive in a way that is sustainable."

On May 8, California started the second in a four-stage process of reopening business and public spaces shut down during the COVID-19 crisis on a category-by-category basis. Businesses in industries such

as retail, manufacturing, logistics, and others that fit certain safety requirements opened Friday, still maintaining recommendations for wearing masks and gloves, and maintain a social distance of six feet between people.

To read more visit, www.wssnews.com.

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Colony High's Eric Danhof Appreciates the 'Overwhelming Support' He's Received as he Enters the Next Chapter of his Life



Eric Danhof

away from the calling that came to him as a young man.

"It's been the highlight of my career to serve as principal of this school," Danhof, 52, says as he prepares to formally hand off those responsibilities to Thomas Mitchell, who has served as Colony's interim principal since Danhof took ill in August. Danhof, who has been Colony's principal for three years, plans to return to the Chaffey Joint Union High School District in another role once he has time to heal from surgery and chemotherapy treatments.

"Being a principal is a full-time job – days, nights, weekends. I love it, but I'm just not in the physical condition to do that," he says. "This is not something that anyone would choose to go through, but I'm overwhelmed by the support I've received from the student body, teachers, the District and the community."

Chaffey District Superintendent Dr. Mathew Holton describes Danhof's legacy as one of professionalism, perseverance and hope.

To read more visit, www.wssnews.com.

Continued from page 4

Crafton Hills College to host Virtual Commencement

to celebrate in person during Commencement in May 2021."

The 2020 Commencement Ceremony will recognize the 794 graduates who earned 1,281 degrees and certificates. During the reading of the names, there will be an accompanying slide with each graduate's information and photo. Students who want to participate are asked to submit their information by May 13th.

The event will include all traditional elements of the ceremony. The ceremony order will follow as: Salute to the Flag - Tyrone Ross, CHC Stu-

dent Senate President (Class of 2020); National Anthem- Performed by Vanessa Terry (Class of 2020); Welcome - Dr. Kevin Horan, President, Crafton Hills College; Introductions- Jose Torres, Interim Chancellor San Bernardino Community College District; Student Commencement Speaker- Karina Lewis (Class of 2020); Commencement Keynote Address- Dr. Judith Valles; Presentation of Graduating Class- Dr. Keith Wurtz, Vice President, Instruction, Crafton Hills College; Awarding of Degrees- Dr. Anne Viricel, Chair

Board of Trustees, San Bernardino Community College District; and A Thought for the Future- Julie McKee, President Academic Senate, Crafton Hills College.

Crafton Hills graduate, Vanessa Terry, will sing the National Anthem. Terry is a part of the CHC class of 2020 and is a theater art major. Terry will be graduating with two theater arts degrees one with a concentration in performance, the other in technical theater and a fine arts degree. She served as president for the Theater Arts Association Club on campus this semester, and earlier this year performed for the Black History Month Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

To read more visit, www.wssnews.com.

Teenagers and Young Adults Encouraged To Get Tested For Coronavirus



Riverside County health officials are encouraging young people to get tested for coronavirus because it is believed the group has been underrepresented in testing so far.

More than 71,000 people have been tested in Riverside County – at county- and state-run testing sites, clinics, hospitals and private facilities – and health officials say it is important that all segments of the population get tested to help determine the spread of coronavirus in the community. While

adults have been well represented in testing, officials said they would like more of those 25 and younger to get screened.

According to census data, those 18 and under make up about 25 percent of Riverside County's population, but that group has made up only 6.6 percent of the testing appointments at the county's coronavirus testing sites.

"We would like to get a more complete picture of the illness as it has spread among young people," said Kim Saruwatari, director of pub-

lic health for Riverside County. "This will help us better understand who in the community has the disease and how it might be moving among children and families."

The county currently operates four drive up testing sites – Indio, Perris, Riverside and Lake Elsinore – and those who want to be screened do not have to have symptoms, although they do need an appointment. Parent permission is required for testing of minors. For an appointment, call 800-945-6171.



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Learn more at californiacensus.org