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MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL - FELIZ NAVIDAD A TODO MUNDO

A Publication of the
Hispanic Communication &
Development Corporation

Wednesday, December 15, 2004
Volume 18
Number 7

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ASSEMBLYMAN JOE BACA, JR. APPOINTED TO ASSEMBLY RULES COMMITTEE/ELECTORAL COLLEGE



Congressman Joe Baca Sr., right, proudly poses with Assemblyman Joe Baca Jr., at a reception at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel after the swearing-in ceremonies at the State Capitol. The father-son legislative team is unique in political history in the United States with representation at the congressional and state level. Photo by IEHN

On Monday, December 6, 2004, Joe Baca, Jr. 62nd District Assemblyman, was appointed by the Assembly Speaker to serve on the Assembly Rules Committee. The district includes portions of San Bernardino, Rialto, Bloomington, and east of Sierra in Fontana.

JOSIE GONZALES, FIRST LATINA ELECTED SUPERVISOR SWORN IN



Josie Gonzales is sworn in as Fifth District Supervisor on December 6 before an overflow audience at the San Bernardino Government Center. Gonzales is the first Latina to be elected as supervisor in the history of San Bernardino County. Ruben Ayala was the first Latino to be elected. She beat Assemblyman John Longville in a bitter campaign battle. Photo by IEHN

In a packed supervisor's board chambers and overflow crowd in the rotunda of the San Bernardino

Baca serves as one of seven members on the Rules Committee panel. The Assembly Rules Committee considers amendments to the Rules of the Assembly, makes the initial assignment of bills to the appropriate standing committees, approves the expenditures of committees, considers substantive legislation and conducts other matters relating to the operation of the Legislature.

Upon his appointment to the committee, Joe Baca, Jr. stated, "I am pleased to join this panel that considers legislation, helps to plan future policy directions for the state, and assures fair operating rules for the State Assembly."

An added title to the newly sworn-in assembly member was the selection to the Electoral College, one of 55 Electors in California. The total Electoral vote in California on December 13 was for the Kerry-Edwards ticket, contributing to the portion of 252 received nationwide.

County Government Center, Josie Gonzales was sworn in as fifth district supervisor by Pastor Raymond W. Turner on December 6th, the first Latina to be elected to the board, a county historically political event, breaking tremendous barriers for future political events to come. In a competitive and nasty general election race, Gonzales beat former Assemblyman John Longville with a large margin of final votes; and an end to a political alliance of Longville and former Supervisor Jerry Eaves, a major issue during the campaign.

Gary Ovitt, former Ontario mayor was sworn in to replace interim supervisor Patti Aguiar, and Gonzales replaced Clifford Young, who was appointed to replace Jerry Eaves, who resigned due to charges of irregularities.

Continue on page 3

GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD SWORN IN TO SECOND TERM IN 61ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Gloria Negrete McLeod (D-Chino) was reelected to her second term and sworn in Monday (Dec. 6) to represent the 61st Assembly District, which includes Montclair, Ontario, Pomona and Chino.

"I am honored that the people of the 61st Assembly District selected me to represent them again. My top priority has been and will continue to be to make sure the interests of all of my constituents are represented in Sacramento," Negrete McLeod said "I will continue to have an open door policy and encourage my constituents to phone, write or e-mail my staff and me with their concerns, comments,

suggestions or questions."

After assuming his office and being elected to head the Democratic majority Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez appointed Negrete McLeod chair of the Business and Professions Committee.

Negrete McLeod said the budget will be a major issue of concern.

"I will focus in part on all of the options we have at our disposal to reform the state's fiscal structure. That is an important issue for all of us in Sacramento," she said. "I also want to focus on such issues as education, our transportation infrastructure and health coverage for the uninsured as well doing what I can to improve the state's economy."

Negrete McLeod said she looks forward to the assembly session, which includes the most diverse membership in California's history. The Assembly is now composed of 27 women, including the first female African-American in over a decade, 18 Latinos and six Asian-Americans, including the first person of Vietnamese descent in the history of the Legislature.

"I am ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work," she said.

UNA CAMPAÑA QUE AYUDA A CRUZAR LA BRECHA DIGITAL

Aunque muchas personas saben que la Divisoria Continental se extiende a lo largo de las Montañas Rocosas, pocas saben sobre la existencia de la Brecha Digital, la diferencia en cultura tecnológica entre los hispanos y el resto del país.

En su estudio más reciente, el Departamento de Comercio determinó que mientras las tasas nacionales de posesión de computadoras en 2001 aumentaron respecto al año anterior, el número de familias hispanas que poseen computadoras aún es menor que el de familias blancas no hispanas y el de

todas las familias estadounidenses, casi un 22 por ciento y 17 por ciento respectivamente. De manera similar, la penetración del Internet de las familias hispanas fue de más de un 23 por ciento menor que las de las familias blancas no hispanas, y más de un 18 por ciento menor que las de todas las familias de los Estados Unidos.

Afortunadamente, se espera que esta brecha tecnológica se reduzca gracias a La Familia Technology Week, una campaña pública de concientización diseñada para

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COUNCILWOMAN BEA CORTES ATTENDS NALEO NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Councilwoman Cortes was recently elected Mayor Pro-Tem for The City of Grand Terrace



Grand Terrace City Councilperson Bea Cortes attended NALEO National Institute for Newly Elected Officials in Washington, D.C. Cortes was recently elected Mayor Pro-tem for the City of Grand Terrace. Photo by IEHN

Councilwoman Bea Cortes attended the prestigious NALEO National Institute for Newly Elected officials in Washington, D.C. This three-day boot camp hosted by NALEO Educational Fund, provides newly elected officials with the chance to develop new skills and network with fellow public servants and experts from all over the United States

U.S. Representative Robert Menendez (D-NJ), State Representative Pedro Colon (D-WI), Pontiac Council President Pro-Tem John Bueno (R), and other national and local Latino leaders spoke on their experiences and provided information on important policy issues affecting Latinos.

Participants heard from experts in a variety of areas, such as media relations, public finance, and public policy. The curriculum includes general sessions, as well as break out sessions by level of government focused on breaking down the budget and public finance process, how to address constituents' priorities, and managing the media. Experts walked participants through the policy making process using specific case studies at the state, municipal, and school board levels.

Participants representing 15 states across the country were in attendance, including 10 state legislators, 28 county and municipal officials, and 22 school board members. The NALEO Educational Fund provides this training in Washington, D.C. to a limited number of newly elected officials every two years. Latino officials elected since November 2002 are eligible to apply to this year's Institute.

DR. DAVID LONG RECEIVES VALUES IN EDUCATION AWARD



Dr. David Long was recently awarded the prestigious "Values in Education Award for 2004." Dr. Long has received numerous awards for his contribution to education. Photo by IEHN

The Learning for Life organization of Redlands has selected Dr. David Long, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, for its prestigious "Values in Education Award" for 2004. The award is given to an individual each year by the organization for a lifetime of contributions to education.

Dr. David Long is the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools and has 40 years of experience in the field of education, ranging from 21 years

of classroom teaching to the superintendency. He has been honored as California Administrator of the Year by the National Organization of Partners in Education, Superintendent of the Year, Man of the Year in Canyon Lake where he lives, and has received the Governor's Award for school leadership.

He was recently honored at the Inland Empire 2003 Entrepreneur of the Year. Dr. Long was awarded the prestigious Marcus Foster Memorial Award from the Association of California School Administrators, which recognizes outstanding leadership and significant contributions to public education by a school administrator.

He obtained his Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

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The Inland Empire Hispanic News is owned and operated by the Hispanic Communication and Development Corporation.

Publisher/Editor - Graciano Gomez
Office Manager - Trini Gomez
Design/Layout - Charla Paszkiewicz
Accounts Analyst - Stella Salazar
Bulk Mail Distribution - Ray Abril
Distribution - Art Ramos

Writers - Pauline Jaramillo
- Esperanza Allende
- Angela Vasquez

The Inland Empire Hispanic News is published every two weeks and distributed in San Bernardino, Riverside, Colton, Rialto, Fontana, Moreno Valley, Ontario, Corona, Bloomington, Rancho Cucamonga, Highland & Redlands. You may subscribe or advertise by contacting the office.

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JOSIE GONZALES, FIRST LATINA ELECTED SUPERVISOR SWORN IN

Continued from page 1

First District Supervisor Bill Postmus and Third District Dennis Hansberger were also sworn in, both winning re-elections in the March primary.

Gonzales, former councilperson for the City of Fontana, will represent San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, eastern portion of Fontana, and the unincorporated areas of Muscoy and Bloomington.

In a straight-talking, and at times emotional, talk to the audience, Gonzales thanked the people that supported her during the campaign, and in tearful words, gave a very special

thanks to her deceased parents who sacrificed for her well-being while growing up.

"The people of the fifth district have been neglected for a very long time, and I promise that this district will receive the tax dollars and assistance needed in our area," she said.

Facing her fellow supervisors, Gonzales said, "things were going to change because she is not above begging my fellow supervisors" and not afraid to stand up for the district's needs.

Gonzales stated that the district and the county have passed the "dark days" of mistrust, referring to Jerry Eaves and high administrative officials pleading guilty to an array of corruption charges.

Gonzales spoke in Spanish to the audience, recapitulating the English version of her speech. At the conclusion of her talk, Gonzales received a long standing ovation.

ESCUTIA, COTO TAKE REINS OF LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS



Senator Martha Escutia, senior member of the Senate, has been elected Chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus, the first woman to hold the office. Newly sworn-in Assembly member Joe Coto (D-San Jose) was elected Vice Chair. Photo by IEHN

education for all our children. I look forward to working with Assembly Member Coto and the rest of my Latino Caucus colleagues to guarantee that the ideals of the Latino Caucus continue to grow and prosper."

"Assembly Member Coto has spent half of his professional life as Superintendent of Schools in two of Northern California's most challenging districts, Oakland Unified School District and East Side Union High School District," said Firebaugh. "Although a freshman in the Legislature, Coto brings a wealth of knowledge in the area of education which is of great importance to the Caucus. He will undoubtedly prove to be a great addition to the Caucus leadership team."

"I would like to thank my colleagues for giving me the opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair of the Latino Caucus," said Coto. "The Caucus plays an important and vital role in addressing the unique needs of Latinos in California. I look forward to working with Senator Escutia in continuing the important work and efforts of the Caucus."

Since its inception in 1973 with five Assembly Members, the Latino Legislative Caucus has experienced tremendous growth and clout. In the 2003-2004 Legislative Session, the nine Latino Caucus Senators either Chair a standing committee or hold a leadership post in the Senate. In the Assembly, thirteen of the fifteen Latino Caucus Assembly Members chair a standing committee or hold a leadership post.

The incoming class of Latino Caucus Members include: Assembly Members Alberto Torrico (D-Newark), Joe Coto (D-San Jose), Juan Arambula (D-Fresno), Pedro Nava (D-Santa Barbara), Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate), Joe Baca Jr. (D-San Bernardino) and Lori Saldaña (D-San Diego).

SACRAMENTO, CA - The California Latino Legislative Caucus elected its senior-most member, Senator Martha Escutia (D-Norwalk), Chair of the Caucus. Senator Escutia's election makes her the first woman to head this powerful group of legislators. Freshman Assembly Member Joe Coto (D-San Jose) was elected to serve as Vice Chair.

"Senator Escutia's experience, longstanding support of the Caucus and dedication to the empowerment of Latinas and Latinos, make her the ideal candidate to lead the Caucus," said Assembly Member Marco A. Firebaugh (D-South Gate), outgoing Chair of the Latino Caucus. "She is a passionate leader that will undoubtedly continue to move the Caucus forward."

"I am honored for the opportunity to serve the Caucus in this new capacity," said Escutia. "Our Caucus will continue to protect California's working families and demand a good

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For an additional \$3.00 fee, each child may have a picture with Santa.

Tickets on sale from Dec. 1st and may be purchased at Parks & Recreation main office, located at 547 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino.

For more info call (909) 384-5006 or (909) 384-5233

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR PARENT ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

No one wants to believe a parent might be suffering from Alzheimer's disease (AD). Fear of what a diagnosis may mean for you and your loved one can make approaching the topic with them incredibly challenging.

While some with AD may initiate their own diagnosis and care, for most it will be a loved one who approaches the individual about changes in memory or independent functioning and alerts their physician. As families gather for the holiday season and you spend more time with your parents, you may begin to notice subtle changes in their daily functioning or behavior that are not normal signs of aging. It is essential you speak with your parent about seeking medical attention as soon as you begin to notice any changes with memory, thinking and judgment skills, or mood and behavior as these changes should be evaluated by a physician.

Warning Signs of AD

The warning signs of AD are more than memory loss. Know what to look for and what to tell a doctor.

Be familiar with the symptoms and watch for changes over time in one or more of the following:

- Memory loss
- Difficulty performing familiar tasks
- Problems with language
- Disorientation to time and place
- Poor or decreased judgment
- Problems with abstract thinking
- Misplacing things
- Changes in mood or behavior
- Changes in personality
- Loss of initiative

While recent advancements in AD research provide new hope for those affected and give physicians and caregivers greater resources to help treat and manage the condition, early diagnosis is key to helping your loved one function independently as long as possible.

"Early diagnosis lessens anxieties about unknown problems, allows time to make choices that maximize quality of life, provides a better chance of benefiting from treatment, and allows more time to plan for the future," said Jeffrey Applebaum, M.D. University of California, Davis Medical Group.

"While it may be difficult to come to terms with the situation, getting through the awkwardness of confronting a parent about their mental health is crucial to successful treatment."

How to Talk to your Parent About AD

Here are tips to help you speak with your parent and encourage them to meet with a physician for an initial evaluation:

- Let your parent know you love them and are there to support them.
- Inform yourself by researching AD signs and symptoms prior to approaching your parent to gain a better understanding of AD and what to expect.
- Begin the conversation by speaking in general health terms or about memory rather than putting your parent on the defensive about the term Alzheimer's disease.
- Keep a record of things you've noticed about their memory or behavior so you have specific examples to discuss with them and the physician.
- Assist them in scheduling an appointment with their family practitioner or in seeking a referral for a neurologist or other specialist.
- Offer to accompany your parent during the tests or offer transportation to the doctor.

Carol Dearing, whose parents, Charlotte and Robert Findley, suffer from AD said, "We recognized symptoms in my mother early. It was difficult to approach her but seeking medical attention early has allowed her to function better than she would have if we had not taken action."

Carol worked with Dr. Applebaum, her parent's physician, to find the best treatment options. Charlotte and Robert were taking an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor and when Namenda® (memantine HCl) became available in the U.S., Dr. Applebaum prescribed the two medications in combination. After taking Namenda, her father's cognitive decline seemed to slow and her mother regained the ability to perform some activities of daily living such as communicating her feelings and personal grooming. Carol considers Namenda a ray of hope and says that the medication has allowed her family to have back some of the mother they once knew.

Namenda is indicated for moderate to severe AD and is available by prescription in the U.S. Ask your physician about Namenda, go to www.Namenda.com, or call 1-877-2-HAMENDA (1-877-262-6363) or the Alzheimer's Association at 1-800-272-3900.

ENCOURAGING CHILDREN'S SELF-ESTEEM

New Book of Lessons Builds Children's Sense of Self-Worth

Margaret Ann Wetherald-Huston hopes to give every child an important gift. In her new book, *Self-esteem-Self-Love: 10 Short and Powerful Lessons for Children Ages 3 to 7, Suitable for Single Child or for Groups* (now available through AuthorHouse), she presents 10 lessons that teach about the uniqueness and value of every child.

These short lessons are designed to give small children a powerful boost in confidence. Filled with songs, stories and activities, the book helps teachers equip young people with the emotions they need to succeed.

Around the ages of 5 or 6, children begin to become aware of themselves, Wetherald-Huston writes. Her opening lesson addresses this and provides an entertaining script to follow that allows teachers to reaffirm each child's worth with a song. Throughout the book, Wetherald-Huston stresses the need to appreciate one's own abilities and respect the worth of other people, animals and plants.

While many books describe how to gain self-esteem, few offer lifelong knowledge children will carry in their hearts forever. Even teenagers who taught these lessons to younger students benefited from hearing declarations of their own self-worth.

"We learn in childhood from our experiences and our individual perceptions of these experiences. We form belief systems that can sink deep into our subconscious and affect our whole lives," Wetherald-Huston writes. "The more we can establish a foundation of true self-love, which is true self-esteem, early in life, the easier it will be for the child as she grows into adulthood. This, in turn, will influence the choices made on her journey and help establish a confident individuality... an adult giving from inner worth rather than one constantly looking to find their worth from approval by others."

Children who absorb the messages in *Self-esteem = Self-Love* learn that they are truly capable, valuable and loveable people just because they are who they are.

Wetherald-Huston is a great-grandmother and a semi-retired alternative healer. She has also worked as a professional singer and is currently writing children's songs for an Australian publishing company, Willow Connection.

AuthorHouse is the world leader in publishing and print-on-demand services. Founded in 1997, AuthorHouse has helped more than 20,000 people worldwide become published authors. For more information, visit www.authorhouse.com

HOW TO MANAGE THE FLU THIS HOLIDAY SEASON...

The holidays are here and the last thing you want to deal with this season is influenza. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as many as one in five Americans contract the flu each year, resulting in more than 200,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths. For millions, influenza will keep children home from school, parents home from work, put a damper on holiday celebrations and interrupt family vacations. "We anticipate seeing record numbers of patients with influenza again this year," says Leslie Mihalov, M.D., chief of the ER at Columbus Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio which saw 450 flu-ridden children a day during a peak last December.

Further complicating this year's flu season is the scarcity of the influenza vaccine, which can help prevent illness. The CDC estimates that as many as 44 million people will go without a flu vaccine this year. But, even if you can't get a flu shot this season, there is a flu test available to help you manage the flu.

Although there are no foolproof ways to avoid catching the flu, health care professionals recommend that

you see a physician for influenza test at the first sign of symptoms—muscle aches, fever, headache, sore throat, runny nose and fatigue.

One test that has gained widespread popularity among physicians is the QuickVue® Influenza test, a fast painless test that can detect the presence of the influenza virus. The test is simple to administer to both adults and children and can provide results in 10 minutes or less right in the doctor's office or the emergency room.

Once influenza has been confirmed, a physician can prescribe antiviral drugs that can reduce the severity and duration of influenza and help prevent the spread of the virus to others. Your physician may also prescribe antivirals to members of the family that have been exposed to the virus to help prevent illness. Importantly, people should resist the urge to "ride out" the symptoms, as antivirals must be taken within 48 hours of symptoms to treat the flu.

For more information about influenza or to find a physician in your area offering the QuickVue® Influenza test, visit www.flutest.com.

HELPING NURSES HELP OTHERS

There are 11 million working nurses worldwide—promoting health, helping to prevent disease and caring for patients who are ill. In the U.S. alone, there are 2.6 million nurses, about four times as many as there are doctors.

While hospital nurses comprise the largest group, other types of nurses include office nurses; nursing care facility nurses; home health nurses; public health nurses; occupational health nurses; and nurse practitioners who provide basic primary health care.

Whatever field nurses work in they share an interest in and an ongoing need for continuing education. While it can take two to four years of education to initially become a nurse, a nurse's education can last a lifetime. To provide patients with the best care, it's important that nurses remain up-to-date on the latest developments in medicine and nursing techniques. Thirty-two states require continuing education for nurses.

To make it easier for nurses to find the variety of resources they need, The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International has created a subsidiary and Web site, www.nursingknowledge.org.

Honor society members include practicing nurses, instructors, researchers, policy makers, executives and entrepreneurs. The society works with a range of nursing associations, publishers, continuing education providers and universities.

These organizations produce health care books, continuing edu-

cation, journals, research, teaching aids and other forms of quality nursing knowledge.

The site offers a one-stop resource for nurses who want to learn or practice evidence-based nursing, develop their careers, increase leadership skills and earn continuing education credits. Nursing Knowledge International offers knowledge-based solutions developed by nurses for nurses.

It is designed to make it easier for nurses to share knowledge with patients, students, fellow nurses and other health care professionals.

It is expected that this site will affect more than the nurses that consult it.

"While it will serve the global community of nursing by providing knowledge and professional development services that increase by providing knowledge and professional development services that increase nurse satisfaction, its real value lies in the fact that it will enhance nurse effectiveness and, in turn, affect patient care by helping nurses help others," said Andre van Niekirk, board president of Nursing Knowledge International.

The site brings together solutions-oriented knowledge and content from sources across clinical practices, academia and research to serve both the educational and professional development need of nurses.

At the site, nurses can also browse through nursing books and shop for nursing apparel.

LATINO BOOK & FAMILY FESTIVAL HUGE SUCCESS



Alva of the Ballet Folklórico of San Bernardino was part of the competing groups. Photo by IEHN



Brown Orgullo de Mexico of Rialto was one of many ballet folkloricos that competed during the two day LBFF event in the Carousel Mall, San Bernardino. Photo by IEHN



Mothers Against Drunk Driving were one of many educational advocacy programs and exhibits at the LBFF event at the Carousel Mall. Left to right, Lucille Lozano, Phyllis Leon, and Sally Hernandez talked to visitors regarding driving while under the influence. A drunken driver killed Lorenzo Leon, son of Mrs. Leon, in January 17, 1978. A drunken driver also killed Valentino Leon, grandson of Mrs. Leon, in September 8, 1983. For information on MADD, call at (909) 888-MADD. Photo by IEHN

The 5th Latino Book and Family Festival (LBFF) at the Carousel Mall San Bernardino, finalized its successful weekend activities, attracting many parents and students throughout the Inland Empire with the numerous educational attractions and service resources. Cultural and art events, including ballet folklorico competition, were scheduled in the two day program. Diana Cervera left, and Violeta

Mothers Against Drunk Driving were one of many educational advocacy programs and exhibits at the LBFF event at the Carousel Mall. Left to right, Lucille Lozano, Phyllis Leon, and Sally Hernandez talked to visitors regarding driving while under the influence. A drunken driver killed Lorenzo Leon, son of Mrs. Leon, in

SINFONIA MEXICANA'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT SATURDAY, DEC. 18

Sinfonia Mexicana has scheduled its traditional Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 18, 2004, at the historical California Theatre of Performing Arts, 562 W. 4th Street, San Bernardino, with the famous Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano and the well-known Ballet Folklórico Ollin. An added event for the Christmas holidays is the Canto Bello, an outstanding musical group scheduled to entertain with traditional holiday songs. Tickets for the performance and pre-concert dinner call at (909) 884-3228 or purchase tickets at the box office prior to the concert.

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For more info. Contact one of Senator Nell Soto's Christmas elves at San Bernardino office (909) 381-3832, at Ontario office (909) 984-7741.

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MARIE ALONZO RECEIVES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD



Marie Alonzo, Chairperson of the Arrowhead Credit Union, received the California Credit Union League's Outstanding Volunteer Award during its annual meeting in Las Vegas.

Photo courtesy of Arrowhead Credit Union.

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – Marie Alonzo, chairperson of Arrowhead Credit Union received the California Credit Union League's Outstanding Volunteer Award during the League's Annual Meeting and Convention at the Mirage in Las Vegas.

The Outstanding Volunteer Award honors significant contributions by people who serve credit unions in volunteer capacities, such as a director or committee member.

Alonzo has become a powerful

advocate for credit unions worldwide, traveling around the world to share her knowledge of the way credit unions help people. She has been especially instrumental in building bridges between credit unions in the United States and Mexico, working closely with Mexico's largest credit union, Caja Popular Mexicana. Her efforts have allowed Arrowhead Credit Union to host Mexican credit union leaders to provide them with support and advice.

Alonzo also serves on numerous committees at Arrowhead Credit Union and its credit union service organizations, such as Arrowhead Financial Group and Arrowhead Trust, and is on the boards of public radio station KVCR and Sinfonia Mexicana, a local organization that promotes classical music composed by Mexican composers. She has also served as a director of commissioner of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Employees Alliance, the YWCA, and the San Bernardino City Fine Arts Commission.

Alonzo and her husband, Alex, live in San Bernardino.

Arrowhead Credit Union was established in 1949 and serves over 140,000 members in the Inland Empire. Arrowhead Credit Union has \$740 million in assets and 22 branches located in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

BACA SECURES FUNDING FOR INLAND EMPIRE PROJECTS

Washington, D.C. – Rep. Joe Baca (D-Rialto) announced today that Congress has approved several of his requests for Inland Empire project funding as part of the omnibus appropriations act for fiscal year 2005.

"I am proud to announce funding for these projects that are crucial to the Inland Empire," said Rep. Baca. "This funding will improve education at our local schools, help our law enforcement agencies keep crime off our streets, reduce traffic congestion, keep our water clean and revitalize our cities."

"I am pleased that the Inland Empire congressional delegation worked together on a bipartisan basis to secure funding for several of the projects," said Rep. Baca. "When members of Congress work together, we can deliver more to our constituents."

Inland Empire funding highlights:
Labor, Health and Human Services and Education

- \$320,000 to the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools for the Virtual High-Tech High School.
- \$320,000 to the Fontana Teen Center for the expansion of activities for grades 10th-12th.
- \$500,000 to the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools for the English Language Learners Initiative.

Commerce, Justice, State & Judiciary

- \$200,000 to the City of Fontana for an Advanced Communications Network.
- \$200,000 to the City of Colton for the Colton Police Activities League (PAL) Program.
- \$100,000 to the City of Colton Police Communications Equipment Project.

Transportation

- \$1.25 million to the City of Rialto for the I-10 Riverside Avenue Interchange.
- \$500,000 to the City of Fontana for the Interstate 10/Cypress Avenue Overcrossing.
- \$5 million to the City of San Bernardino for the I-10 Tippecanoe Interchange.

Veterans Administration-Housing and Urban Development

- \$150,000 to the City of Rialto for the Perchlorate Wellhead Treatments.
- \$72,750 to the City of San Bernardino Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services for the Expansion of the Perris Hill Park Senior Center.
- \$450,000 to the City of San Bernardino for the Downtown Revitalization Project, formerly Lakes and Streams.
- \$280,000 to the National Orange Show for enhancements to the National Orange Show grounds.

NEW YEAR'S DANCE PARTY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Where: At the Galaxy Ballroom, 1494 Art Townsend Dr., San Bernardino, music with a live DJ.

When: Saturday, January 1, 2005 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Tickets cost \$5 per person and can be purchased at Parks & Recreation main office, located at 547 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino

Students will be required to show either High School ID card or Driver's License for entry the day of the event.

For information call (909) 384-5006 or (909) 384-5233.



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Continued from page 1

comunicar a las familias hispanas el valor de la tecnología y su importancia en la educación y preparación profesional de sus hijos. La campaña patrocinada por IBM y Career Communications Group, se encuentra ahora en su cuarto año y se lleva a cabo durante el Mes de la Herencia Hispana, que se celebra del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre.

Desde sus inicios hace cuatro años, la iniciativa ha patrocinado cientos de cursos de computación, exposiciones tecnológicas, cafeterías con Internet y talleres, proporcionando a miles de hispanos en todo los Estados Unidos acceso, capacitación, y en muchos casos, su primera introducción a la tecnología.

Este año, IBM lanzará el programa Asociación con IBM para la Educación (Partnering with IBM in Education, PIE), una iniciativa de todo el año para los grados K-12 en la que los empleados de IBM prestan sus servicios como voluntarios en los distritos escolares para alentar un interés en matemáticas y ciencia entre los niños de las escuelas elementales, aumentan la preparación

para la educación superior y ayudan a reducir la tasa de abandono escolar entre los estudiantes hispanos.

Como el proveedor de tecnología de información más grande del mundo, IBM ha asumido el papel de liderazgo para asegurar que las personas de todos los antecedentes tengan acceso a tecnologías innovadoras y recursos de información. Al abordar la Brecha Digital y al lanzar campañas como La Familia Technology Week y el programa PIE, IBM está tomando medidas para asegurarse de reclutar el mayor talento para su fuerza laboral de todos los antecedentes raciales, étnicos, sociales y económicos.

Esta iniciativa refleja el compromiso de la compañía con las comunidades en las que realiza sus negocios. En la raíz de su compromiso se encuentra la creencia fundamental de que las personas de todos los antecedentes raciales, étnicos, sociales y económicos deben recibir las mejores oportunidades para aprender, tener éxito y convertirse en miembros productivos de la sociedad.

LATINO CAUCUS URGES GOVERNOR TO DENOUNCE RACIST CAMPAIGN TACTICS

SACRAMENTO, CA – The California Latino Legislative Caucus urged the Governor this morning to publicly repudiate the recent anti-Latino campaign strategy funded by the California Republican Party and the Jobs Political Action Committee against various Members of the Latino Caucus and other Democratic candidates.

"The campaign strategy utilized against various Latino candidates invoked an anti-Latino message not seen since Governor Pete Wilson's anti-immigrant ads for Proposition 187," said Senator Escutia (D-Norwalk), Chair, Latino Caucus. "It is shameful that the California Republican Party and JobsPAC utilized tactics of hate and fear that only serve to divide Californians based on race. I credit the voters who rejected these racist attacks and elected the best candidate to represent them."

One of the most offensive pieces, which were mailed to voters in Assembly District 31, during the last days of the election, portrays Assem-

bly Member Juan Arambula (D-Fresno) against the background of a Mexican border crossing on one side with a background of day workers on the other side. It includes false charges against the Assembly Member and attacks a Mexican American cultural association.

"No one should resort to race-baiting tactics to win a race. It saddens me that organizations would resort to negative racist attacks to win elections across this state," said Assembly Member Juan Arambula (D-Fresno). "No one, irrespective of their ethnic origin should tolerate this kind of campaigning."

"As one of the targets of the recent campaign attacks, I can attest that the hit pieces resonated in my district and created unrest amongst my constituents," said Assembly Member Lori Saldaña (D-San Diego). "The nature of these negative mailers appeals to the lowest common denominator in our society and has no place in this day and age."

YOU COULD GET MORE IN 2004 FOR YOUR DONATED VEHICLE THAN IN 2005

American Cancer Society's "Cars For a Cure" Will use your Donation to Fight Cancer

SAN BERNARDINO – New Federal legislation taking effect January 1, 2005, will change the method of calculating tax deductions for individuals donating cars to charity. The new legislation restricts the deduction of a vehicle worth more than \$500 to the gross sale proceeds instead of the taxpayer's determination of the fair market value of the donation.

"Californians may benefit by donating their vehicles or boats before year end," said Nancy Kellison, director of the American Cancer Society's Cars For a Cure donation program in California. "A gift to the American Cancer Society in the form of a donated vehicle or boat generates income for cancer research, advocacy, education and patient service programs that help fight cancer and save lives. Because we manage our

own program instead of working with outside vendors, we retain a higher percentage of the proceeds of donated vehicles than other charities."

Last year in California, Cars For A Cure generated more than \$1.2 million for the Society, which receives 75 to 80 percent of each vehicle's sale price. The program accepts cars, trucks, vans, recreational vehicles, and boats on trailers. Some restrictions apply, so the best way to find if your car will be a good fit for the program is to call 1-888-CAR-5500, or visit the American Cancer Society's web site at www.cancer.org to fill out an online donation form. All accepted vehicles/boats will be towed free of charge.

For more information anytime, call toll free 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

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SAN MANUEL SHOWS OFF NEW CASINO



San Manuel Indian Bingo and Casino hosted a tour for area media of its recent casino expansion. Greeting the media, Chairman Deron Marquez, left, spoke on major additions to the latest casino developments. (l to r) Jill Philbrook, Marketing Director, Steve Lengel, Director of Operations, and Peter Watts, Director of Project Development. Photo by IEHN

San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino administrators hosted the area's media to a special tour of the 480,000 square foot two story casino and adjacent garage, the latest major expansion to be opened in late January 2005.

Chairman Deron Marquez greeted the media, spoke on major innovative expansion of the new casino, and mission style architecture. "We have grown quite a bit since opening a bingo in 1980's, expanding little by little, and our latest is what you see. We will be providing 3,000 jobs when the casino opens and expect approximately 4,000 visitors a day," he said.

Steve Lengel, Director of operations, described the casino as having added space for improvements over the older casino, including bigger kitchens for visitors and employees, large stage for performances, a second story bingo room with a capacity for 2500 people, the second largest in the country, dining areas, and large card rooms.

As an example, Lengel said, dining for families may include the

Serrano Buffet, Sportswatch Grill, Tukut Lounge, and the Tutu's Food Court.

Other expansions planned for 2006 is the San Manuel Village with a hotel, restaurants, and stores in Highland. Other investments include business enterprises with other tribes in Sacramento and other venues throughout the country.

Area neighbors adjacent to the San Manuel Casino have complained to the City of San Bernardino on increased traffic along Victoria Avenue, incidents of drug use and crime. Marquez stated that San Manuel has been cooperative with the neighbors and the city in resolving situations that affected the area. He said that they, the San Manuel, had recently presented a \$5 million proposition for improvements in the area, however, the city had not responded.

The tour included a special buffet for the media and other guests prepared by Bradley Martin, executive chef.



Pictured above are key San Manuel culinary managers: (r to l) Bradley Martin, Executive Chef, Ron Mastandrea, General Manager, Anthony Olivas, Pastry Chef, and Alfred Vargas, Sous Chef.

Photo by IEHN



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NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 for the following:

2005-18 Design, Engineering & Installation of a Turn-Key Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System at AQMD Headquarters in Diamond Bar, CA

Mandatory Bidder's Conference: 1/12/05 9:30 a.m. Closing Date: 2/25/05 5:00 p.m.
 Contact: Ranji George (909) 396-3255

Persons attending a bidder conference should confirm their attendance by calling the contact person. Bids will not be accepted from anyone not attending a mandatory bidder's conference.

The RFP may be obtained through the Internet at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/rfp/>


If you have questions or would like a copy of the RFP mailed to you, call the contact person.

It is the policy of the AQMD to ensure that all businesses including minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, disabled veteran-owned businesses and small businesses have a fair and equitable opportunity to compete for and participate in AQMD contracts.

SCAQMD Procurement Unit
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A message from California Department of Health Services funded by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Department of Public Health Nutrition Program Human Services System County of San Bernardino Project LEAN and the Nutrition Network Grant #99-85867

