Reapportionment shifts political odds in Inland Empire

The State’s reapportioned political lines are drawn for 1992 as a result of districts being redrawn by a team of special masters. The special masters were appointed by the State Supreme Court as a result of Governor Pete Wilson’s refusal to sign off on redistricting plans submitted by Senate and Assembly Democrats.

The Supreme Court will review the new plans by January 28 and it is expected that final approval will be granted, although a court suit has been filed. The suit, by the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) alleges that federal guidelines have not been met regarding minority voting rights mandates as established by the 1965 Federal Voting Rights Act.

For all intents and purposes, the election process will continue, mainly as a result that any, or all, legal suits filed will not be resolved by the courts before filing dates.

Locally, there are several races that have created more interest as a result of reapportionment, population shifts and ethnic interest, specifically, higher Hispanic population in electoral districts.

The County of San Bernardino is scheduled to have supervisorial elections in the first, third and fifth districts. As a result of the supervisorial redistricting plans approved by the Board of Supervisors last year, one of the hottest races will be in the fifth district, where the current incumbent, Bob Hammock, has indicated an interest in the congressional race against George Brown in the new 42nd Congressional District. Other candidates for the fifth is Assemblyman Jerry Eaves and San Bernardino Councilperson Ralph Hernandez, and Colton Mayor Frank Gonzales, who indicated in a telephone interview that his options are opened at the present time.

The Fifth Supervisorial District has a population of 282,670, with the ethnic breakdown of Non-Hispanic White 43.6%, Hispanic 39.1, Non-Hispanic Black 12.7, and Asian 4.7.

Continued on page 3

Latino Peace Officers name
Ben Rubidoux 92-93 President

The Latino Peace Officers Association, Inland Empire Chapter, has elected Ben E. Rubidoux as president for 1992-93. Also elected were Ron Candellaria, first vice-president, Richard Amador, second vice-president, Diane Cowell, treasurer, Margo Barbosa, secretary, Dan Gutierrez, sergeant-at-arms, and Ruben Berrios, historian. Mr. Rubidoux was vice president of the LPOA in 1987. He is a member of the VFW Hendrickson-Whitefield Post 6476 in Colton.

The president-elect issued the following prepared statement, “I wish to thank the members of our chapter for their confidence in electing me as their new president. I will put forth the leadership to insure that we become one

Continued on page 2

Jerry Esparza was elected president of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for 1992-93. Elected with Mr. Esparza was Tony Chavez - vice president, Alfredo Enciso - treasurer, Enrique Gonzalez - pro-treasurer, Bertha Andrade - secretary, John Olivas - pro-secretary, and the following members as directors: Gus Ulloa, Alfredo Gonzalez, Dan Torres, John Rodriguez and Manuel Morales.

The IEHCC (previously, the Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce) was organized in 1956 by Mexican businesspersons on the Westside of San Bernardino. Since its inception, the IEHCC has been a viable business organization that has inspired others to
was written by Antonia Hernandez, President and General Counsel, Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and is an excerpt from its monthly publication.

The nomination of Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court brought attention to the important issue of diversification of the judiciary in this country. While the Bush administration and Thomas himself chose not to call the appointment a nomination of color, it was clear that racial considerations played a significant part in Thomas' selection, and rightfully so. It is extremely important that our courts reflect the demographic realities of our society, yet Latinos and other minorities are conspicuously missing from the bench at every level.

Latinos bring their own unique life experiences and perspectives to the court, and provide important insight and constructive dialogue on issues pertaining to the violation of civil and constitutional rights, national policy and law - issues of critical importance to Latinos and to all Americans. They also help determine an effective course of action for those who look to the courts as the final redress for wrongs committed against them.

In this country we live under laws that are many times interpreted and implemented through the actions of our courts. Decisions handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court, the highest court in the land, most dramatically affect our daily lives, but state courts which deal with local or regional conflicts are equally important. Thus, the point of view of Latino jurists and other minority judges is needed at all levels of the judiciary.

During the 1990s, we must push to improve the appalling lack of Latino representation on the judiciary. We must speak with our elected officials on the lack of real movement in naming Latinos to judicial positions. And we must prod our governors, senators and the President to aggressively increase efforts to diversify the court, the branch of government that most represents the American people - in this case, its Latino citizens.

The purpose of the conference is to develop a comprehensive Latino agenda for 1992. The focus of the discussions is on three main topics of importance to Latinos in the current year according to Dr. Armando Navarro, conference director and Mel Albisso, ISJ Chairperson.

Latin political empowerment will be discussed with a planned development for voter registration drives, citizenship training, getting-out-the-vote drives and political education. Other topics will be Latino social action, which will deal with education, immigration and affirmative action; and Latino economic empowerment which will deal with the current economic crisis, with an emphasis on the development of a business network to strengthen the Hispanic business community.

Interested persons may call (714) 888-0207 for further information. A $10 registration fee will be charged for materials, continental breakfast and lunch.

In an effort to involve his local constituents in the dialogue about reforming the nation's ailing health care system, Cong. George Brown (San Bernardino, Ontario, Riverside) will preside over a national health care forum on the issue January 8, 1992, at the San Bernardino City Council Chambers. Also attending will be California Congressman Pete Stark (Oakland), chairman of the House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee. This is one of two subcommittees which will ultimately do the most to determine the fate of any congressional health care reform plan.

This hearing will give local health care providers, consumer groups and health professionals the opportunity to tell Cong. Brown and Cong. Stark what the government ought to be doing to reform the nation's health care system. "I believe it is important to hear the concerns and needs of the people in my district before endorsing any health care reform plan," said Cong. Brown. "The information will allow both Congressman Stark and me to deal more responsibly with this issue when we return to Washington in late January."

Cong. Brown and Cong. Stark will hold a press conference immediately following the forum. Date: Wednesday, January 8, 1992 Time: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Brown to preside at Local Conference on National Health Care Today in S.B.

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During Christmas time, college students are given the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with their families and this is true of Leonard Lopez, a first year student at Stanford University School of Law. These past holidays was an opportunity to talk to this highly motivated young man.

Initially, in our conversation, an immediate impression of this young man was the intensity in his statement regarding educational goals, professional career and commitment to serve his community.

"I am fortunate in that, since I can remember, my upbringing was one of guidance, support and encouragement from my parents and my extended family, that is myrelatives, uncles, aunts and cousins, who also encouraged and supported me in whatever I have strived to do. My paternal and maternal grandparents had considerable influence in my upbringing. I remember when my maternal grandmother would make tortillas and we would go to the railroad yards where she would give the tortillas and food to the homeless people. This and other influences has had an impact on me, consequently, at an early age I developed an incentive to get the best education possible and help other people."

Mr. Lopez was born in Colton (actually, at Kaiser Hospital, he said) attending Wilson and McKinley Elementary Schools. "When I attended the elementary schools, the teachers gave me additional attention and instructions, probably because I was always eager to learn and get good grades. I guess that made me a gifted student sometimes eager to learn and get good grades."

Throughout his student days at Colton Junior High and Colton High Schools, he continued to apply himself in his studies, receiving good grades and became involved in speech and debating. During these school years, he competed in numerous local speech and debate contests, winning the local Rotary Club contest and others. He became proficient enough to be eligible to participate in the high school's speech program. Entering a statewide speech contest against a large number of competitors during his junior year, he placed second, which he said, "Gave me a thrill for a guy from Colton to win this statewide debate."

During his junior year, Mr. Lopez was elected ASB president and was also selected by a veterans' organization to attend Boys State. He graduated with his grades, he continued to be involved in the speech teams, school newspaper (at Valley College) and was active in MECHA. 

"I feel very strongly that each of us should devote time and energy to become involved in our community. This would, in effect, contribute to uplift the social and economic level of our Hispanic people and eliminate some of the barriers. I chose the legal profession because it was promising career and simultaneously, would give me an opportunity to help people in need of legal aid."

"Because I feel so strong in using the legal process to correct injustices, I sometimes challenge specific laws in my classrooms, and with my fellow schoolmates, when I feel that applying those laws would create an injustice to persons who would not be able to defend themselves."

While attending Stanford, he had volunteered his services with the East Palo Alto Community Law Project and is actively involved with the Latino Law Students' Association.

He wants to be a role model to his younger brothers, Brian 20, Kevin 18 and Jacob 14, and students who might have an inclination to drop out of school.

"Education is the solution to many of our problems. We should encourage our youth to obtain the best education possible, even though it would require sacrifices on their part."

John and Margo (Castro) Lopez, parents, said, "Leonard has been a model son to us, he decided on his own to continue his education because he felt it was necessary, even though getting an education has been a sacrifice for him. We are very proud of him."
George Kim, Special Marketing Director of Anheuser-Busch, presents a check for $500 to Tati Lozada, President of Fontana Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Carmen Garcia, President of the Inland Empire Puerto Rican Association for the Children’s Christmas Party.

Sheriff’s Deputies Henry Calderilla and Tony Hernandez distribute anti-drug balloons and materials.

CHP Officer Pete Barrera of the Protector Program and CHP Officer Larry Olveda, Public Affairs Coordinator, distribute literature against drinking to children.

Esther Jiminez-Salas of the Tobacco Use Reduction Now Program distributes anti-smoking materials to children including balloons, buttons and brochures.

A portion of the approximately 900 children treated to a Christmas Inland Empire Puerto Rican Association and the Fontana Hispanic Commerce.

Santa Claus, aka Ralph Negrete, talks to youngster waiting for lunch.

Wives of the GENTS prepare each guest plate with care.
Chamber of Commerce
Puerto Rican Association
Men's Christmas Party

by the number of

Santa Claus, aka William Garcia and Mrs. Claus, aka Paula Cornejo present a gift to an eager recipient.

Puffless, smoke-free dragon, aka Henry Salas, greets children at the Christmas Party.

Organization Provides Christmas Spirit

Robert Young and Santos Favela, head chefs, preparing the menu.

GENT messcooks at the ready in the galley.

The waiters wait their turn to serve guests.

A great Christmas dinner is enjoyed by all in the spirit of Christmas.
Gov. Wilson targets $14Million for amnesty education programs

SACRAMENTO - Governor Pete Wilson today announced that $14 million would be targeted to keep open educational facilities through June, 1992 (end of fiscal year) for newly legalized residents.

The funding comes from the federal State Legalization Impact Assistance Grant (SLIAG) program, which had not been allocated the previous fiscal year.

"Without this money, many amnesty educational programs would have been forced to close their doors to eligible amnesty aliens," Wilson said. "The English courses are necessary to qualify for citizenship."

The shortage of money for California is due to a cutback in funding by Congress. SLIAG is a vitally important program without which California would not have the service capacity to meet the basic health care and literacy needs of the over 2.5 million men, women and children welcomed into the United States with the passage of the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA).

With more than half of all eligible SLIAG recipients—some 1.3 million men and women—living in California, Governor Wilson realizes that amnesty aliens and newly legalized citizens must receive adequate educational services so they can continue to learn or fine-tune their English skills, obtain jobs and become even more productive citizens.

While the monies that would have been dedicated to SLIAG programs under the vetoed SB 112 were illusory, the funding now allocated for amnesty education programs through the Department of Education is tangible and readily available.

Honig seeks volunteers to review contents of instructional materials

SACRAMENTO - State Superintendent of Public Instruction Bill Honig announced today that the California Department of Education is doing statewide recruiting for individuals interested in reviewing the social content of instructional materials that may be used in California classrooms. Volunteers will work one weekend in May reviewing science textbooks and materials for compliance with legal requirements of the Education Code and guidelines established by the State Board of Education.

"This is an opportunity to broaden public awareness and participation in reviewing instructional materials before they are formally adopted and used in California schools," said Honig. "Those selected to serve on the Legal Compliance Committee will be examining depictions of male and female roles, cultural and racial diversity, and other social issues including representation of the aged and disabled."

After completing this review for social content issues, the textbooks and other related instructional materials submitted for state adoption will be evaluated for educational content by an Instructional Materials Evaluation Panel comprised of science experts and teachers.

Members of the general public who represent the diverse California population are encouraged to apply to the 1992 Legal Compliance Committee. The committee's duties will entail a time commitment of approximately 20 hours over the May weekend. Committee members will be reimbursed for transportation, meals and lodging in traveling to Sacramento to review materials. Those interested can obtain applications by contacting the Office of Curriculum Framework and Textbook Development, California Department of Education, 560 J Street, Room 290, Sacramento, CA 95814, telephone (916) 445-2731. All applications are due by February 1, 1992.

Science instructional materials will be made available in April 1992 for public review at Instructional Materials Display Centers (IMDCs) located throughout the state. Forms for recording comments and recommendations from the general public are available at all IMDCs.
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Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, January 8, 1992

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follow the Hispanic traditions, in addition being a support group for businesspersons.

Mr. Esparza was born and raised in San Bernardino, attending the local schools, San Bernardino Valley College, and Cal-State, San Bernardino. He has been a chamber member since 1985. Mr. Esparza has planned to provide greater services for IEHCC members during the coming year. He emphasized that scheduling guest speakers for monthly meetings will be a goal, in addition to providing business seminars. "I invite businesspersons to become involved in our Chamber, and to participate in any of our various committees. Our goal is to develop a greater networking system for the businessperson and strengthen our business community."

The IEHCC has scheduled an installation at the El Rancho Verde Country Club in Rialto on January 19. Persons wishing further information may call Tony Chaves at 888-2188.

Colton Schools To Offer Parenting Class

The Colton Joint Unified School District will offer two free parenting classes beginning next month. The six-week Active parenting class will teach how reward and punishment work, how to make discipline more effective, and how parents can encourage children to misbehave and how communication can win cooperation from children.

Counselor Marianne Sems will lead the class at Zimmerman Elementary School in Bloomington, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., January 9, 16, 23 and 30 and February 6 and 13.

Former teacher Christina Kanaly will present the program at Lewis Elementary School in Bloomington, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., January 8, 15, 22 and 29 and February 5 and 12.

There is no charge and free child care will be provided.

For more information and to register, call Substance Abuse Specialist Patty Richenberger at the Educational Services Center, 876-4281.

January is National Blood Donor Month

Local Need Great

Americans have been donating blood for patients for more than 50 years. Last year more than 12 million units of lifesaving blood were transfused to four million patients suffering from trauma, cancer, anemia, bone and joint problems, heart disease and to persons having organ transplants. President Bush has declared January National Volunteer Blood Donor month to honor volunteer blood donors who so generously give blood to help save patients' lives. Throughout January, the Blood Bank of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties will pay tribute to these donors in recognition of their contribution.

Because there is no substitute for blood, volunteer blood donors are the main source of blood for patients. The amount of blood needed for a patient with an aneurysm can be 50 units or more, persons having bypass surgery will use between four to eight units, those with traumatic organ damage (accident victims) may use as many as 100 units and people undergoing liver transplantation will use between 30 and 150 units of blood. The more than 350 units a day the blood center must draw to meet patient need in this community can be significantly depleted with one trauma or transplant.

In his proclamation declaring January to be National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, President Bush said, "When we donate blood, we show that we have opened our hearts to the thousands of ill and injured persons who, each year, depend on readily available transfusions. As the eight million Americans who volunteer annually well know, giving blood is a safe, simple process that fills us with warmth as it fills others with life."

With this area's population growth, the demand for blood donors today is greater than ever and the supply needs constant replenishment. More than eight million volunteer blood donors will be needed this year, yet less than five percent of the population donate. Locally, 80,000 donations must be made by donors to meet patient need. Please put donating blood on your list of New Year's resolutions.

Motorcycle helmet law now in effect to be enforced by CHP without delay

Every California motorcyclist and motorcycle passenger must wear a helmet commencing January 1, according to California Highway Patrol Chief Robert Hill.

Chief Hill, who commands the CHP's Inland Division, pointed out that past law required helmets for motorcycl or motorized bicycle drivers and passengers under 15 years, six months. "Now," he said, "that requirement will apply to the drivers and passengers of all motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and motorized bicycles, regardless of age."

"Everybody on every motorcycle will have to be helmeted. "The Chief noted also that the Highway Patrol will enforce this law from the moment it becomes effective. "Our practice in the past has been to wait until 90 days after a significant new law went into effect before actually issuing citations, so as to give everyone time to find out about the new provisions."

"We are foregoing the conditioning period because people already learned about this new helmet requirement, and the sooner we can approach universal compliance, the more lives we can save."

Chief Hill said that the change is a universal helmet requirement in other states has caused motorcycle fatalities to decline by as much as one-third in the first year alone. "Oregon's motorcycle fatalities went down by 33 percent in the first year of their helmet law. In Nebraska the total dropped 32 percent, and in Texas the helmet law reduced motorcycle fatalities by 23 percent—all in the first year."

Motorcycle mishaps in California claimed 569 lives in 1990, he said. "Based on the experiences of other states, we expect this helmet requirement to save from 150 to 200 lives in 1992 alone."

"The sooner we can get people on motorcycles into helmets, the better." The Chief noted that the new law applies to both motorcycle drivers and passengers on all public roads and highways.