January 8th 1992

Hispanic News

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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 special masters. The special masters were appointed by the State Supreme Court as a result of Governor Pete Wilson 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 plans submitted by Senate and Assembly Democrats 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 regarding minority voting rights mandates as established by the 1965 Federal Voting Rights Act.

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 40.24%, Hispanic 40.22%, Non-Hispanic Black 15%, and other Non-Hispanic 4.54.

Candidates for the supervisorial elections are currently allowed to collect signatures in lieu of filing fees until February 20 and nomination period is February 10 through March 6.

San Bernardino County line
County line
Highland City limits
Rialto
Fontana

42nd Congressional District

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, Inland Empire Hispanic News.

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.

During the 1990s, we must push to improve the appalling lack of Latino representation in the judiciary. We must speak with our elected officials on the need for real movement in naming Latinos to judicial positions.

The Institute for Social Justice has set forth in the new year is to recruit new members into our Chapter. Interested persons may call (714) 888-0207 for further information.

BROWN TO PRESIDE AT LOCAL CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL HEALTH CARE TODAY IN S.B.

In an effort to involve his local constituents in the dialogue about reforming the nation's ailing healthcare system, Cong. George Brown (San Bernardino, Ontario, Riverside) will preside over a 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 testify, will be sent in early January.

The Institute for Social Justice has planned a Riverside and San Bernardino Leadership Conference to be held at the San Bernardino Valley College Student Center, San Bernardino, on January 11, 1992 from 9:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

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 Albiso, ISJ Chairperson.

The nomination of Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court, the highest court in the land, most dramatically affects 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 minorities is needed at all levels of the judiciary.

Latino jurists 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 minorities is needed at all levels of the judiciary.

During the 1990s, we must push to improve the appalling lack of Latino representation in the judiciary. We must speak with our elected officials on the need for 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 access to justice and equality under the law.

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Latinos political empowerment will be discussed with a planned development for voter registration drives, citizen 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.

Latino Peace Officers Continued from page 1

of the most outstanding chapters in the peace officers' history. One of the goals that I have set forth in the new year is to recruit new members into our Chapter.

The second goal is to support our members in their effort for upward mobility in their respective agencies.

Mr. Rubidoux was employed in 1972 as deputy coroner investigator by the San Bernardino County Coroner's Office. Since 1987, he has held the position of senior deputy coroner investigator in charge of forensic morgue. Prior to his current employment, he was a funeral director in Colton and San Bernardino. In 1985, he was the recipient of the Department's Hispanic Officer of the Year Award.

He served in Korea as staff sergeant with the 148th Graves Registration Company. A descendent of the Rubidoux pioneer family of Riverside, his great-great-grandfather was Louis Anton Rubidoux, who received a grant from the King of Spain.

Mr. Rubidoux and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Colton.

Further information about this event, including the specific groups scheduled to testify, will be sent in early January.

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PERSONAL PROFILE: Leonard Lopez, a young Hispanic man that knows where he’s headed

During Christmastime, college students are given the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with their families and this is true of Leonard Lopez, 23, a first year student at Stanford University School of Law. These past holidays was an opportunity to talk to this highly motivated and committed 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, especially the Hispanic 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 my relatives, uncles, aunts and cousins, who also encouraged and supporting 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 rail 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 got good grades. I guess that made me a gifted student and I was enrolled in the Gate Program, which accelerated my education and gave me added resources, like computer knowledge, field trips and guest speakers.”

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 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 from Colton High School with honors. He attended Stanford University School of Law where he is a first year student.

Leonard Lopez and brother Jacob Lopez in 1986.

At San Bernardino Valley College and UCLA, in addition to keeping up 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.”

Leonard Lopez and brother Jacob Lopez in 1986.

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Reapportionment

Persons who have unofficially declared their candidacy for the 62nd Assembly District in the June 2 primary election are Joe Baca, local businessperson and San Bernardino Community College Trustee for 13 years and Rialto City Mayor John Longville. Mr. Baca previously ran twice in the old 66th Assembly District against the current Assemblyman, Jerry Eaves; and in the 1990 primary elections, garnered 43.5% of the vote. Mr. Longville has been Rialto mayor since 1987.

The reapportionment process has created the new 32nd State Senatorial District, previously the 34th District. The new district has a population of 745,944. Ethnic breakdown is as follows: Non-Hispanic White 44%, Hispanic 40%, Non-Hispanic Black 10.5%, Asian 5.5%. This district is a combination of the 61st and 62nd Assembly Districts.

Senator Ruben Ayala is the incumbent for the 34th District. Elections for this office will be held in 1994.

The new 42nd Congressional District

is the split from the old 36th Congressional District. Geographically, the District covers a major portion of San Bernardino, a portion of Ontario and all of Rancho Cucamonga. Rialto, Bloomington, Colton and Grand Terrace. The total population is 571,844 and the ethnic breakdown is Non-Hispanic White 50.5%, Hispanic 34.5%, Non-Hispanic Black 11%, and Asian 4%.

Congressman George Brown has held the congressional office for 28 years and is currently the Chairman on Science, Space and Technology. His potential opponent may be Supervisor Bob Hammock in the general elections in November.

In the congressional election, candidates are required to file nomination papers between February 10 and March 6.

Candidates for the assembly election are required to file declarations of intent between February 10 and February 18. Nomination papers should be filed between February 10 and March 6.
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 younger 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 $14 Million 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 job skills 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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9453 Citrus, Fontana

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The Sheriff's Department Group conducts group testing quarterly. At that time applications are taken. The next test is to be announced. For more information contact the Job Hotline of the County’s Resources Department at (714) 387-5611.

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

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

Chief Hill, who commands the CHPs
Inland Division, pointed out that past
law required helmets for motorcycles
and motorized bicycle riders and pas-
geners under 15 years, six months.

"Now," he said, "that requirement will apply
to the drivers and passengers of all motor-
cycles, motor-driven cycles and mo-
torized 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 signif-
icant 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 require-
ment 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.

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 pa-
tients' 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 Janu-
ary 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 an-
nually 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. Lo-
caIly, 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
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