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"Backing Into The Future"

Columbus, Cleopatra, Custer, And The Diversity Revolution

By Carlos E. Cortés
Professor of History, University of California, Riverside

Editor's Note: On June 11, Dr. Cortés delivered the 1992 Public Humanities Lecture in San Jose. This article is adapted from that talk.

In 1992, Christopher Columbus discovered the Americas. At that very same time, American Indians discovered Columbus. Five hundred years later we are still arguing about how to commemorate it or exorcise it? Or commemorate it? Or deplore it? Or merely recognize it?

Why, in 1992, should we still be debating sometimes with detached calmness, sometimes with engaged vehemence-this 500-year-old event? Why should we still be arguing about how to deal publicly with it? Why can't we get our act together on this bit of ancient history?

Why has that long-dead Italian generated such an extraordinary degree of contemporary controversy, ranging from academic conferences to public events, including a mock trail of Columbus, a conflict over the Rose Bowl Parade, two competing motion pictures, and the renaming of Columbus Day as Indigenous People's Day by the city of Berkeley?

The answer is as simple as it is elusive. Because we are worried about the future. And as documentary filmmaker Ken Burns has suggested, "Our future lies behind us."

Because we do not-as so many pontificating commencement speakers have urged us to do-1 repeat, we do not march into the future. We back into it. Because consciously or unconsciously, as individuals, as groups, as a society, even as a world, we all back into the future dragging the heavy hand of history. Because so many people believe-or fear-that the ways we think about the past influence our destinies. Because as we reconsider, rediscover, retell, rechart, reread, and reemphasize the past, we continuously rearrange the foundations upon which we currently operate and alter the dynamics that drive us backing into the future.

Since the 1960s, the United States has been racked by a History War, a struggle over the interpretation, teaching, and commemoration of its past. That History War has involved battles for control of-or at least greater influence on-textbooks, courses, curricula, graduation requirements, and public observances. It has involved battles over what questions should be asked as we reexamine our past. It has involved battles over which should be included and excluded as we remember our past. And it has involved battles over how we should teach and publicly commemorate our past. For as Plato warned, "Those who tell the stories rule the society."

As one battleground in today's History War, Columbus has become a convenient personification and embodiment-at least for this year-of that contest for control over the past. We may have backed five hundred years into the future, but our eyes remain firmly fixed on the past, and our battles for supremacy in interpreting and observing that past have become increasingly contentious with time.

But why? Let me suggest at least three reasons.

First, because today's History War addresses the very core of our humanity and identity, by contesting who and what should be considered basic to our remembered, transmitted, and commemorated heritage.

Second, because the History War addresses one irrefutable reality-that we cannot escape our past, even if we are ignorant of it, because history's heavy hand rests upon our present and influences our future, often in dramatic and unpredictable ways.

And finally, because the last quarter century has been a revolutionary period for the United States. I call it the Diversity Revolution. In terms of the humanities, that revolution has had two dimensions-demographic and conceptual.

The demographic dimension is easiest to describe. In the last quarter century, the United States has undergone a dramatic shift in its racial and ethnic composition. And those past demographic changes provide only an appetizer for the future.

According to a 1989 U.S. Bureau of the Census projection, in the next forty years, between 1990 and the year 2030, the White American population will increase by only 25 percent, the African-American population will increase by 68 percent, the Asian-American, Pacific Island-American, and American Indian populations will increase by 79 percent, and the Latino or Hispanic population will increase by 187 percent. In California, members of so-called minority groups are projected to become the population majority within the next decade. That's the demographic future into which we are backing.

Beyond that has been the conceptual aspect of the Diversity Revolution. During the 1960s, the civil rights movement spurred persons of diverse backgrounds to ask new questions about their heritage-not only about their society.
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Brown Bill Calls For Halt in Exporting U.S. Jobs

Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. (D-San Bernardino-Ontario-Riverside) has written to President Bush calling for an immediate end to the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and other federal agencies spending American taxpayers' dollars to subsidize the relocation of U.S. manufacturing jobs to Third World countries, especially in foreign export processing zones (EPZs). The letters is co-signed by House Majority Leader Richard G. Dicks, Jim Slattery, and Peter Hoogland.

"Since I disclosed AID's taxpayer-financed, job-exporting activities on '60 Minutes' last Sunday and the subsequent reports on ABC News Nightline last night," Brown said, "Americans all across the nation justifiably have voiced their outrage. I have already drafted and circulated legislation to my colleagues in the Congress that will permanently end these indefensible activities, but it strikes me that this is a situation where President Bush should act immediately. That is why I have written directly to the President urging him to act now and not wait."

"There has been a lot of talk about gridlock in this Congress and unresponsiveness to the needs and concerns of the American people," Brown said, "but there clearly is a groundswell of bipartisan support willing up in both the House and Senate to quickly legislate, if necessary, an end to this affront to American taxpayers and workers. For my part, I am going to do everything in my power to make certain that the Congress does not adjourn before putting an end to this outrage."

The U.S. Senate on Wednesday afternoon was already considering amendments to the FY93 Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill that would cut off funding to AID and other federal agencies involved in these programs and activities.

Los Angeles - In testimony Oct. 1 before four committees of the state Legislature, Bishop Phillip F. Straling, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino, called Proposition 165, the so-called Government Accountability and Taxpayer Protection Act, a simplistic and mean-spirited approach to solving the state's economic woes, and said that, if passed, the initiative would "destroy the system of checks and balances designed by our forefathers and mothers as a safeguard for our democracy."

The bishop testified before the Senate's Health and Human Services and Budget and Fiscal Review committees, and the Assembly's ways and Means and Intergovernmental committees. Committee members are seeking to discover the impact of possible passage of Proposition 165 on the state and its residents.

Bishop Straling, who also serves as vice-president of the California Catholic Conference, said that 165 "represents a series of ill-conceived solutions to major social and economic problems of our day," and added that its passage would "produce immeasurable suffering in the lives of the most vulnerable members of our society, poor children."

The bishop litanized many economic conditions that have led to what he called "the worse economic recession to hit southern California since the Great Depression" of the 1930s. Among those conditions was the influx of people into the state following the industrial collapse that hit the Northeast in the early 1980s, another wave of migrants to the state following the mid-80s foreclosures on family farms in the Midwest, the savings-and-loan collapse that has devastated California's construction industry, the growing income gap between rich and poor, and the end of the Cold War which has decimated California's aerospace industry.

"These problems are placing severe strains on the financial well-being of the state," the bishop told the legislators. "But, I think, based on evidence available to us, that it is safe to say that the major causes of the state's fiscal problems are the changed world political reality."

"These factors coupled with the short-sighted, greed-oriented and failed economic policies of the '80's need to be addressed if we are to rebuild our national and state economy," the bishop said. The real victims of the passage of 165 would be 1.6 million children in the state that receive 70 percent of the state's monthly pay-outs of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the bishop said. Also affected would be the state's unemployed, aged, blind and disabled citizens.

"Proposition 165 would punish these groups as though they were the cause of our problems," Bishop Straling said.

If passed, 165 would immediately reduce AFDC benefits by 10 percent. At the end of six months, if an adult member of the family did not find work, the benefit would decrease another 15 percent, this "in addition to the benefit cuts that will be experienced by most beneficiaries within the next month as a result of this year's budget resolution," he said.

"Reductions of this nature would serve only to increase the already unacceptable number of homeless families, as well as, insure the destruction of many more innocent young lives," the bishop testified. Noting that the proposition would give the governor "absolutist fiscal power," the bishop said the passage of 165 would also "jeopardize the established process of good government designed to insure that the common welfare of all people is served by a balanced representative government."

In closing his testimony, Bishop Straling noted that the nation's Catholic bishops had committed themselves to influencing public policy so that it favored children and families.

"Our goal, looking beyond the defeat of Proposition 165 is to impel all to build with one another a society, state, nation, a world with a clear priority for all families and children in need."
Aguilar to head Cal State, S.B. Tech / Info Division

Dr. William Aguilar

A new information resources and technology division is being created at Cal State, San Bernardino to better coordinate current operations, announces President Anthony H. Evans.

Dr. William Aguilar, university librarian, is being appointed to head the unit, which will include the university library, computer services, audio-visual and telecommunications, Evans states. Although he will continue to oversee the Friau Library, Dr. Aguilar’s new title will be vice president for information resources and technology.

Citing similar consolidations that have occurred at other SCU campuses in recent years, Evans says, “What sets our campus apart from others is that with each future new building at the university, opportunities abound for developing special partnerships with the private sector to enhance equipment, software and telecommunications. Moreover, our large service area would benefit from our campus’ fuller use of technology for learning in distant locations.”

Aguilar’s educational and professional background lends itself well to this new leadership post, Evans notes. With a Ph.D. in library and information science from the University of Illinois-Urbana and 18 years of service associated with libraries, Aguilar says that the consolidation of information resources at Cal State, San Bernardino is reflective of “what libraries have been doing for the past decade...since library development has been integrally related with information resources.”

Resolution urges librarians to increase Mexican-American Material Collections

Mel Albiso, Affirmative Action Officer for the San Bernardino City Unified School District received a resolution from the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors as president of the Association of Mexican-American Educators, stating that local librarians were urged to build their collections of materials to increase the understanding to the Mexican-American experience among the general public.

The resolution additionally states that local libraries were requested to set aside the month of September of each year as a time to celebrate and promote Mexican-American Literature.

The Board took resolution action based on a substantial undercounted 1990 U.S. Census and the growth of 69.2% for Hispanic population in California from 1980 to the 1990 census count. The total Hispanics in the state stand at 7,687,938 or approximately one-fourth of the total population.

The resolution elaborates on the increased number of Mexican-American authors whose quality of work have gained recognition and through library systems and respective community outreach, their (the authors) works can be further promoted as a beneficial use of library resources, which has not been fully realized to the present time.

Resolution urges librarians to increase Mexican-American Material Collections

Vivian Davis, Route 66 Association Founder and Secretary, presents sign to Councilman Ralph Hernandez. Sign is posted on 6th Street & Mt. Vernon Ave.

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Kiwanis of Greater San Bernardino - "We Build"

Publisher's note: The Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino (KCGSB), is considered one of the outstanding community-oriented service clubs in the Inland Empire. The club recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Inland Empire Hispanic News, in its September 23, 1992, publication, narrated the club's history and activities. The following article is a continuation of that narrative.

The KCGSB was chartered in December, 1967. Since that time, membership has gradually increased with professionals who are actively involved and whose commitment is to serve the community, more specifically, the Hispanic community. As a result, KCGSB and its membership have been involved in projects and activities to meet the needs of communities in the Inland Empire and other areas.

Joe Baca, long-time KCGSB member designed and implemented the Youth Incentive Program (YIP) in 1974, the predecessor of the Youth Education Motivation Program (YEMP).

The YEMP goals consist of annually organizing voluntary corps of professionals to visit middle schools; volunteers discussing their respective professions with students, outlining educational and experience requirements; emphasizing the importance of education in the real world and motivating students to continue their education into the college level.

The volunteers, through coordinations, have visited a large number of middle schools throughout the years and have spoken to hundreds of students. "We feel that the many professionals who have volunteered their services these many years have had a tremendous impact and have motivated these young people to continue their education," stated Mr. Baca at a recent KCGSB meeting.

For his leadership in establishing the YEMP, Mr. Baca, a San Bernardino Community College Trustee since 1978 and candidate for the 62nd Assembly District, received the Youth Education Motivation Program Youth and Juvenile Service Award.

In 1989, the Naval Reserve-Naval Hospital Detachment 719 (assigned in San Bernardino) was mandated to schedule community health fairs as a component of their annual training plan. Lt. Commander Ray Quinto, executive officer and KCGSB member, recommended that Casa Ramona, a community center in the Westside barrio, be selected as the location for the first health fair. KCGSB was solicited to be the co-sponsor of the event.

The first health fair was scheduled at Casa Ramona on June 11, 1989 with Naval Detachment 719 as the main medical agency with participation by the County of San Bernardino's Health and Mental Health Departments. In addition to the health service support agencies in the Inland Empire.

A wide array of medical examinations were available for the sixty-eight adults and children who were examined during a six-hour period.

An evaluation of the registrants indicated a need for health fairs for families who are unable to provide basic medical care and treatment, especially for recently arrived immigrant families.

As a result of the community health findings subsequent to the health fair, the Naval Detachment 719 and KCGSB have scheduled three health fairs in 1990, 91 and 92, all at Casa Ramona. The primary goal was established to target the Hispanic Community, with a special emphasis toward "Young Children-Priority One."

Numerous governmental health service agencies, private health support service agencies, area hospitals, community-based organizations have been involved in providing expanded medical services.

The area minority newspapers and radio stations have been instrumental in outreaching into the Hispanic community in order that families become aware of the services.

Kiwanis Health Fairs have served 6840 people

An important service element has been the follow-through referral program that has been provided for persons, especially children, who have been identified with special medical needs.

In addition to standard medical and advisory examination services, other services have included: dentistry, hearing/vision, immunization, EKG, oncology (including mammography), health education and drug/alcohol prevention, etc.

Registration figures compiled for three years reflect a total of 6840 persons having been provided examinations, of which approximately 5600 were children.

The City of San Bernardino recognized KCGSB for co-sponsoring the Casa Ramona health fair.

Casa Ramona Community Center awarded a plaque to Lt. Commander Ray Quinto for his leadership role in the implementation of the health fairs.

Plans are being developed to provide an expanded medical services for the health fair for 1993.

Kiwanis of Greater San Bernardino Health Fairs have served 5600 community children.

FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
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Naval Reserve personnel conduct dental examinations with the assistance of Kiwanis members.
A virtual "Who's Who" of the Latino entertainment world will honor leg- endary Chicano composer and singer Lalo Guerrero at the McCallum Theatre on Sunday evening, October 11, 1992 to benefit the College of the Desert.

Ricardo Montalban, Paul Rodriguez, Cesar Chavez, Little Joe, Cheech Marin, Rosana DeSoto, Culture Clash, Latinos Anonymous, Gilberto Valenzuela, Mercedes & Lupita Castro, Glorida Becker, Mark Guerrero, Carmen Moreno, Trio Charro, Marcos Loya, El Mariachi Sol De Mexico and other will pay tribute to Guerrero in story or song at the gala event produced by Lalo's son, television producer, Dan Guerrero.

Proceeds from the historic night will benefit College of the Desert's efforts to establish a branch campus in the Eastern Coachella Valley and to provide funds for scholarships for Latino stu-


dents attending the college.

Lalo Guerrero's career spans five decades in both the United States and Mexico and many of today's artists credit him with being a pioneer role model and helping many Latino entertainers break into careers in the U.S. and Mexico.

Guerrero's music has earned him many awards including the distinguished National Heritage Fellowship awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts at a Washington, D.C. ceremony in 1991 and the recent induction into the Tejano Music Hall of Fame for his outstanding contributions.

Tickets are available at the McCallum Theatre Box Office, 340-2787 and at all Ticket Master outlets. Tickets are $25.00, $50.00. A limited number of VIP tickets are available for $125.00 which includes VIP seating and a reception following the show with Lalo Guerrero and guest artists.

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Lalo Guerrero was born in Tucson, Arizona on Christmas Eve, 1916. His father's origins were in La Paz, Baja California and his mother was from Santa Ana, Sonora, Mexico. His parents were married in Cananea, Sonora and moved to Tucson in 1916 where they remained the rest of their lives.

Lalo became interested in music at a very young age, influenced by his mother, who sang and played the guitar beautifully. She was his first and only teacher. His composing began early, writing both music and lyrics Lalo wrote the classic "LA CANCION MEXI- CANA" while still in his teens. It was made famous by the great Lucha Reyes and has become a standard in the Mexican repertoire.

It was the first of hundreds of songs to be written and recorded by Guerrero on various labels throughout his career - Vocalion, Imperial, RCA Victor, Capitol, Colonial, and Ambiente among them.

Lalo's uniqueness is his versatility, writing in a myriad of styles and re-
cord success with mariachi, conjunto groups, orquestas and combos. His creative output includes the romantic "NUNCA JAMAS," the comical "LA MINIFALDA DE REYNALDA," nu-

merous "PACHUCO" songs of the 40's used years later in "ZOOT SUIT," and dozens of corridos and cancioncs of social protest, works that reflect his concern for his people are the Mexican Americans. His English language parodies from "TACOS FOR TWO" to "GRANADA" have kept people laughing for years and his famed "LAS TRES ARDILLITAS" have delighted children through more than 20 long-

playing albums.

His honors are many - an invitation to the White House in celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the National Endowments for the Arts, the NOSOTROS Golden Eagle for Lifetime Achievement, concerts and awards from Yale, Harvard and most recently, UCLA. The list is endless. Most recent: he traveled to Washington, D.C. later in September '91 to be honored with a 1991 National Heritage Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Lalo is celebrating 40 years of music and there are plans for a stage show based on his music, a documentary and a book on his life. He continues his lifelong work in community services entertaining at benefits, fundraisers, orphanages, retirement homes - where ever he is called.
Revolution and became one of the early nation's conceptual Diversity. Thank you, disbanded the committee, ethnic history course, a women's literature, a novel that doubled to more than $1.2 million with Budweiser's matching contribution.

For the fourth year in a row, Anheuser-Busch wholesalers around the country will make a contribution to NHSF based on their sales of Budweiser, Bud Light or Bud Dry in 12 oz. cans at grocery stores, restaurants, nightclubs and other retail locations during the month of October, said George Kim. "The money we raise will then be matched dollar-for-dollar by Anheuser-Busch."

Since its inception in 1988, the Budweiser cents-per-case donation has resulted in $613,000 being contributed to the AP by Anheuser-Busch wholesalers, a figure that doubled to more than $1.2 million with Budweiser's matching contribution.

"A nice thing about this is that the money raised locally will be used to award NHSF scholarships to local college students," George Kim added.

The October contribution is just part of Anheuser-Busch's ongoing commitment to the NHSF, an affiliation that began in 1981.

Since then, 6,830 scholarships have been awarded to students studying medicine, engineering, computer science, business, law, education and other fields with Anheuser-Busch contributions.

8 San G Students named AP Scholars

Eight students at San Gorgonio High School have been named AP Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college level Advanced Placement (AP) exams.

From a total of 388,000 students who took AP Examinations in May 1992, only about 11 percent performed at a sufficiently high level of achievement.

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Jack Gomez -

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Inland Empire Hispanic News

Special Election Issue

Wednesday, October 28, 1992
Advertising Deadline: 5:00 P.M., October 20

Community News

Wednesday, October 7, 1992

Anheuser-Busch to contribute share of October sales to NHSF

The Budweiser family of brands, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler family provide more than $3 million in support annually for the NHSF through local, regional and national fund-raising activities, ranging from golf tournaments to major events, such as Festival Musical Budweiser, a major concert tour starring Ana Gabriel and, this fall, Juan Luis Guerra 4.40.

NHSF began in 1976 and has since awarded $11.5 million in scholarships to more than 18,000 Hispanic college and university students across the country. Anheuser-Busch has provided more than 35 percent of the scholarship funds to date.

We greatly appreciate the support of Anheuser-Busch. Anheuser-Busch Riversidelocal retailers who are involved in this October benefit promotion," said NHSF Executive Director Jack Gomez. This program and Anheuser-Busch's longtime support have helped thousands of Hispanic students and their families cope with the rising cost of tuition.

NHSF scholarships are based on financial need, academic achievement, and personal qualities and strengths. Recipients must be of Hispanic parentage, U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

More information about NHSF scholarships can be obtained from Buscando Estrellas con Budweiser point-of-sale displays in grocery stores and other retail locations during the month of October or by writing to the NHSF, P.O. Box 728, Novato, California 94948.

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Development Department
Of the City of San Bernardino
Notice of Public Hearing
General Use of the Public Enterprise Center

The Community Development Commission of the City of San Bernardino will conduct a Public Hearing regarding the uses, current and projected, for the Public Enterprise Center located at 1505 West Highland Avenue in the City of San Bernardino. The hearing is scheduled for the Community Development Commission's meeting of October 19, 1992 at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to obtain the views of citizens relative to the present use of the Public Enterprise Center and to solicit ideas and recommendations for the future use of the use of the facility.

Those citizens interested in more detail regarding this issue, should contact Mr. Arthur J. Hassel, Project Manager, at (714) 384-5081. Individuals that are unable to attend the meeting to discuss their concerns may submit written comments to:

Arthur J. Hassel, Project Manager
Development Department
201 North "E" Street, Third Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1507

In the alternative, they may also contact Mr. Hassel and express such concerns verbally.

Kenneth J. Henderson, Executive Director, Development Department
by: ARTHUR J. HASSEL, Project Manager

Election '92 - Vote Tuesday, November 3
Inland Empire Hispanic News

U.S. CENSUS OFFICE REPORTS
Hispanic Owned Businesses Increase 80.5%

By Leonardo A. Goymerac

According to the latest Census Bureau Survey of Minority-Owned Businesses in the United States, the census summary of findings reveals the following information. Hispanic-owned firms increased 80.5% from 233,975 in 1982 up to 422,373 in 1987.

The largest number of Hispanic-owned firms were located in California with 132,212 companies producing $8.1 billion dollars worth of receipts. California firms accounted for 31.3% of all Hispanic-owned firms and 32.8% of their receipts.

As might be expected, Texas had the second largest number of firms (94,754) and ranked 3rd in receipts with $4.1 billion which accounted for 22.4% of all Hispanic-owned firms but only 16.6% of their receipts.

The State of Florida ranked third in number of Hispanic-owned firms (64,413) but ranked second in receipts with 4.9 billion. Florida accounted for 15.3% of all Hispanic-owned firms but only 20% of their receipts.

Among the largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas of Southern California, we find the Los Angeles-Long Beach area with 56,679 firms producing 3.3 billion dollars. In the San Diego area there were 10,373 firms producing $559,444 million dollars. Inland Empire Metropolitan areas of Riverside-San Bernardino, there was a total of 10,195 Hispanic-owned firms producing $576,537 million dollars in receipts. Among the ethnic variations, there were 8,079 Mexican-owned firms with $459,280 million in receipts. Puerto Ricans accounted for 224 Hispanic-owned businesses, there were 890 firms accounting for $38,581 million in sales. 383 firms were European Spanish owned and producing $26,081 million dollars worth of receipts. Classified as "Other Hispanic" there were 346 businesses producing $18,285 million dollars worth of receipts.

Contrasting the two Inland Empire Counties, Riverside had 4,680 Hispanic-owned firms which produced $246,509,000 in receipts while San Bernardino County had 5,515 Hispanic-owned firms accounting for $330,028,000 dollars in receipts. As reflected earlier, population clusters among the various Hispanic ethnic groups prosper in entrepreneurial ship in large metropolitan areas and traditional areas of migration such as Texas, New Mexico and California. According to William Dunn in " Selling The Story," "Fifty-eight percent of the Hispanics in the U.S. have roots in Mexico, 12.6 percent in Puerto Rico, 6.7 percent in Cuba, 13.6 percent in Central and South America, and 9.0 percent in the Caribbean or Latin America." Dunn also predicts, "As early as 2015, Hispanics may surpass blacks to become America's largest minority group."

The Census Bureau conducts an Economic Survey every five years. The above represented statistics reflect 1987 survey results.

San Francisco, CA - California states budget cuts will mean that Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for many residents will be reduced, or in some cases, stopped entirely. "The change in amounts will take effect with the November 1st payment," stated Linda McMahon, Regional Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

"The cutback is a result of the California legislature's actions to balance the state budget for Fiscal Year 1993, which began in July. The legislature reduced the total amount the state adds to the federal SSI payment," McMahon said.

Since the amount of a monthly SSI payment is based on one's income, it's possible for the reduction to actually stop the payment entirely for individuals who receive small monthly benefits. Estimates suggest that the dollar reductions could eliminate benefits entirely for approximately 25,000 SSI recipients. Due to the low of SSI eligibility these individuals may no longer be automatically eligible to Medi-Cal coverage since qualifying for the state medical benefits is in some cases linked to payment of SSI benefits.

More than 600,000 California residents receive SSI benefits exceeding $393 million in monthly benefit payments. The program, created by Congress in 1974, provides monthly payments to the elderly (age 65 or older) and individuals of all ages who are blind or disabled if they meet certain income and resources requirements. All SSI recipients affected by the change will receive a written notice in mid-October from Social Security telling them of the reduction in their payment levels. People who have questions about their Medi-Cal coverage should contact their nearest county welfare office.

For further information call 800-772-1213.

Some County Offices Change Office Hours to Reduce Costs

In another cost-saving measure to help meet the current budget situation and fulfill the environmental mandate to reduce air pollution, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Social Services, and the departments of Aging and Adult Services and Jobs and Employment Services will begin a 9/80 work schedule effective October 5.

On a 9/80 work schedule employees work 9 hours a day for 8 days, 8 hours on the 9th day and take every other Friday off.

A modified work schedule has the potential for future facility cost savings, while it immediately helps the County to satisfy Regulation XV of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). By closing one Friday each two week pay period, it is estimated travel will be reduced 10%.

"It will reduce, by one day a pay period, the County's cost of paying travel expenses, for employees who do field work on a daily basis," said Robert McDonald, associate director DPSS Management Services.

These departments will be closed every other Friday beginning October 23. This is in addition to the 10 furlough days being taken between now and next June.

Before making a visit to any office, the public is advised to call the individual departments for specific hours of operation.

Hernandez Committee Fundraiser

The recently organized, voters-participation committee has scheduled "Fiesta '92", a fundraiser for Ralph Hernandez, candidate for the 5th District Board of Supervisors for San Bernardino County, at the Radisson Hotel Convention Center, San Bernardino, CA, on October 25, 1992 from 12:00 to 4:00 P.M. tickets are $15 per person or $40 for a family of four adults. Entertainment will include, Mariachis International, Vic Sliek-D.J. for KRLA, Los Angeles and the Latin Society, Salsa Group, Betty Carvalho, local actress is currently working on attendance from the Hispanic Actors Community. Leonard Gonzales, committee coordinator, stated this celebration was organized to encourage all citizens to participate in the election process. We have a strong committee of volunteers from large families and strong organizations. Attendance of over 1,000 people is anticipated. The program is family oriented and child service will be provided.

All candidates are invited, from the presidential to local city councils and special districts to participate. A "Candidate's Corner" will be available to them for their representatives and promotional material allowing them as opportunity to meet our constituency.

Persons wanting further information may call our headquarters at (714) 888-4315.

Special election issue coming, Wednesday, October 28