November 11th 1992

Hispanic News

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Elections will bring change

On Election Day, November 3, the national electorate voted for numerous changes that occurred at the national level, with a new face at the White House and numerous new faces at the congressional level. Locally, the City of Colton voted to keep Mayor Frank Gonzales for another term; however, due to a special election, six new council districts were formed and five new persons will compose the city council: E. Jerry Rios, Abe Beltran, Betty Cook, Deirdre Bennet, and David Sandoval. Councilwoman "Patty" Cisneros was not running as a result of a recent special election.

Rudy Favila had previously run for the city council of Ontario and was unsuccessful. In this election, Mr. Favila was able to come in second in a field of 10 candidates. Rex Gutierrez, a relatively newcomer to the political scene, came in with the highest vote count in a field of six for a seat in the council for the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Mr. Gutierrez, however, has been actively involved in the political area in Los Angeles, working in numerous political campaigns, including campaigns with Gloria Molina. Felix Diaz, a counselor at Victor Valley Community College, is currently on the Victorville School Board. He was elected to the council for the City of
Elections will bring change - Cont. from Page 1

Victorville. Mr. Diaz has planned to hold two elective positions!

Oftelia Valdez-Yeager is the second Hispanic to be elected to the Riverside Unified School District, Robert Nava is a current member of the Board. Ms. Valdez-Yeager has been actively involved in school and civic affairs over two decades, which greatly qualifies her for that position.

Congressman George Brown overcame strong opposition to win in the New 42nd Congressional District, in spite of current trends for political changes, Congressman Brown's Chairmanship of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee was a key to a successful win in the campaign. With a Democratic majority in Congress and a Democratic president, Congressman Brown will be able to pass significant legislation to transition defense industries to peacetime industries in Southern California, with related retaining and educational programs for personnel previously employed in those industries.

The greatest election results was the success of Joe Baca's campaign to be the new Assemblyman for the 62nd Assembly District. Mr. Baca succeeded after two previous attempts for that position.

Several key factors were involved in the campaign. Assemblyman-Elect Joe Baca, we wish you Godspeed.

To celebrate this year's Great American Smokeout (GAS) on Thursday, November 19, free self-help stop smoking "survival kits" will be available for the public at designated sites throughout the County (please see list of sites included). The kits will contain information to stop smoking, as well as a toll-free Smoker's Helpline (1-800-637-6653) for questions and support. Both the kits and the helpline service are provided through the Department of Public Health Tobacco Use Reduction Now (TURN) Program.

The American Cancer Society sixteen years ago, encourages smokers to quit smoking for at least 24 hours. "Most smokers want to quit," said Michele Jacknik, Program Manager for TURN. "But many get discouraged if they've tried to quit before and went back to smoking. The Great American Smokeout reminds smokers that it's time to give it another try."

Jacknik added that most smokers make at least three attempts before they are successful at becoming smokefree, but that most do so on their own. The survival kits will give basic tips to stop smoking, as well as ways for individuals to remain smokefree over the holidays. Also included in the kits are barriers, stickers, sugarless gum and candy, and other items to keep the smokers' hands and mouth busy.

In addition to the survival kits and strong self-motivation, smokers can greatly use the support of friends. TURN suggests the following ways to help a friend become smokefree during GAS:

* Keep the day fun.
* Call or see your friend several times. Tell them they can make it. Bribe them if needed.
* Praise them for their efforts. DON'T NAG.
* Take a smokefree break with your friends. Go to a place where they cannot smoke. Take a walk.
* Go to lunch at a smokefree restaurant. TURN has a list of smokefree eating places.
* Give your friend little gifts to eat (gum, candy, vegetables) and to play with (pencils, toothpicks, and rubber bands).
* Give up something you love like chocolate, soap operas, coffee or soda for the day. Show your friend how important this is.
* Send flowers or balloons during the day or to celebrate the next day.
* Congratulate them at the end of the day. Urge them to keep smokefree. They could be smokefree forever.

For more information about ways to quit smoking or to help someone become smokefree, call TURN at 1-800-637-6653. TURN can also mail a survival kit to those who request them by phone.

"Prospering in a Recession" Seminar

The City of San Bernardino Private Industry Council and Employment and Training Agency is hosting a Seminar for employers and small business, titled, "Prospering in a Recession," on Tuesday, November 17, 1992, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. The Seminar will be held at the Economic Development Agency, 201 North "E" Street, San Bernardino. The Seminar will be led by Mr. Scott Rodde, Director of the National Development Council and Ms. Jean Stephens, an audit partner with Fleming, Reiss & Company, Certified Public Accountants. There is no charge for the Seminar, however, reservations are necessary. Call (714) 858-7881.

Nomination Period

For Mayor & Wards

City Clerk Rachel Clark announced today that the nomination period for elective posts in three Council wards and the Mayor's office will open on Tuesday, December 1, 1992, and close at noon Tuesday, December 22, 1992.

Council seats up for election in 1993 are those in the First, Second and Fourth Wards. The primary election will take place on March 2, 1993. If a run-off election is required, the general election will take place on May 4, 1993.
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church is presenting A Tribute to the Evolution of Mariachi featuring the world famous Mariachi Sol De Mexico de Jose Hernandez. An added attraction to the program is Mariachi Juvenil Sol De Mexico and Ballet Folklorico Celito Lindo. The program is being presented at the Sturges Center for the Fine Arts, 780 North "E" Street, San Bernardino, on Sunday December 13, 1992 at 4:00 P.M. All seats are reserved. Tickets are $25, $20, and $15. For tickets and information call (909) 384-5415. Proceeds will be allocated to the Guadalupe Future Growth Program.

Yolanda Cabrera named Colton School District’s New Bilingual Coordinator

McKinley Elementary School teacher Yolanda Cabrera was named the Colton Joint Unified School District’s bilingual coordinator, a new management position. Her appointment was approved by the Board of Education on October 15.

As bilingual coordinator, Cabrera will help district schools expand bilingual services, including teacher training, student identification and program design.

"To meet the challenge of improved student performance in our district, the Board of Education approved the establishment of a bilingual coordinator position to help us ensure that every child can learn and become prepared for the 21st century," said Superintendent Herbert Fischer.

The number of bilingual students has grown dramatically in the past two years. As of October 1, the district had close to 2,000 students who speak little or no English. A review of past numbers showed that there were 1,282 limited or non-English proficient students in March 1990. Twenty languages other than English are spoken in the district.

This diversity has created a need for teachers to learn multicultural strategies that will help non-English speaking students learn English and other subjects.

Cabrera will lead education programs, such as teacher training in the Language Development Across the Curriculum program and the Summer Spanish Immersion program. She also will oversee the district’s Career Ladder program, in which bilingual classified employees are receiving assistance to become teachers.

A teacher in the district since 1974, Cabrera has taught at McKinley School for the past three years and serves as coordinator of the schools’ bilingual program. She was a bilingual resource teacher at Lincoln Elementary in 1985-86 and instructor in the Summer Spanish Immersion program.

Cabrera completed her master’s degree in educational administration and her administrative credential this year from Azusa Pacific University. She also holds a master’s and credential in pupil personnel services through the same university.

Cabrera lives in Redlands with her husband, Ron, a teacher at Reche Canyon Elementary School in Colton.

Dan Rocha Named Colton Jr. High V.P.

Washington Alternative High School teacher Dan Rocha was named assistant principal of Colton Junior High School on September 17.

A teacher in Washington’s Opportunity Program, Rocha will replace Kay Bunnell, who was chosen as principal of Terrace Hills Junior High. He started his new assignment September 21.

Rocha joined the district in 1986 at Washington High. Before coming to Colton, he served as superintendent and assistant superintendent/principal of the Chualar Union School District from 1983 to 1986. He also was director of special projects for the Greenfield Union School District for one year and coordinator of instruction for the San Bernadino City Unified School District for four years.

Rocha is bilingual and holds a master’s degree in educational administration from California State University, San Bernardino.

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FHA Title I. Are You Entitled To One?

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If you’ve been considering making some home improvements, consider the FHA Title I Home Improvement Loan offered by Redlands Federal. You can borrow any amount up to $15,000 without an appraisal, regardless of the amount of equity in your home.

If the improvements protect or improve the value of your home, we want to help. Use it to remodel a kitchen or bathroom, paint or add new lighting. Repay the loan in six months or 15 years or any time in between.

Talk to us about the FHA Title I Loan. And relax. No one is more qualified to help you qualify than Redlands Federal Bank.

*Loans over $5,000 to require an appraisal and 1% of the appraised value to be borrowed. (Minimum loan amount is $5,000 for single family improvements and $1,000 for multi-family improvements.)

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Hispanic Awareness Month
Celebrated with Art, Entertainment & Dinner

A series of art and entertainment events marked the Cultural Awareness Coalition's celebration of Hispanic Awareness Month. The highlight of the festivities was the Coalition's second annual Hispanic Awareness Dinner. The dinner was held on October 9, and the theme was "A Tribute to Hispanic Women."

Linda Griego, Deputy Mayor of Los Angeles, served as the keynote speaker for the annual dinner. Griego spoke of the need for people to recognize the many areas of diversity in Southern California: ethnic, cultural, language, religion, income and even diversity within cultures. "We need more tolerance and understanding in order to work together," Griego advised.

The Coalition continued its tradition of sponsoring an essay contest for employee's children. The students wrote about the value of Hispanic women. This year's first prize winner was Erica Sherie Gomez, daughter of Diane Gomez of Accounts Receivable; first runner up was Christopher Lee Metchnikoff, son of Elva Metchnikoff of the San Bernardino Regional Accounting Office and Alex Metchnikoff of the Victorville office. The second runner up was Heather Chavez, whose father is Tony Chavez of the Huntington Beach Generating Station.

During the evening program, CAC board member George Barganier announced that the Coalition is in the process of forming a partnership with Fontana Unified School District and Fontana Chamber of Commerce. The goal of the partnership will be to educate youth about cultural issues in order to promote greater understanding and unity.

The month-long Hispanic Awareness celebrations were initiated by the late Mary Lou Gomez, a San Bernardino office employee who believed there was a need for awareness and appreciation of Hispanic culture among employees. In 1990, the efforts of the Coalition were expanded to the Long Beach office. This year, another expansion occurred as the Coalition included Asian Pacific cultures by sponsoring the Chinese Moon Festival at the General Office.

Employees interested in activities of the Cultural Awareness Coalition may call co-directors Barganier of Afarah Board at PAX 16118 or 16116, respectively.

Bishop Straling on Prop. 161

The following statement was released Nov. 4 by Bishop Phillip F. Straling in reaction to the defeat of California's Proposition 165 and Proposition 161.

"I am delighted by the defeat of Proposition 165. The securing of justice for the disenfranchised; dignity for the downtrodden, and assistance to the poor must be a concern for all of us. God wants us to meet this battle head-on by insisting on the worth and rights of all families and individuals. With this in mind, I hope and pray that the discussions presently taking place in Sacramento between the Religious Task Force and representatives of Governor Wilson around the issue of welfare reform will prove fruitful. Accepting this challenge has been the practice of the Church for centuries. We resolve to continue this tradition."

"The defeat of Proposition 161 brings great relief, gratitude and hope. I am relieved that this direct assault on the sacredness of life was defeated. I am also impressed by the diverse groups and individuals who worked together to defeat this initiative. The Catholic Church was privileged to be part of this coalition which extended far beyond ecumenical boundaries. It is my hope that our united effort portends a future where ideological differences are set aside so that attacks on life's sanctity may be thrust aside."
San Bernardino City Schools Honor

Outstanding Students for Scholastics and Service

Nancy Cardenas - Arrowview Middle School
Sara Ensor - Arrowview Middle School
Jackie Eusebio - Lankershim Elementary
Rachel Flores - Cajon High School
Hector Gonzalez - Lytle Creek Elementary

Victor Herrera - Lincoln Elementary
Misty Hernandez - Lankershim Elementary
Joshabe Lopez - Lytle Creek Elementary
Santos Moreno - Arrowview Middle School
Claribel Malina Romero - Lytle Creek Elementary

Students from the San Bernardino City Unified School District were honored Outstanding Students by the Board of Education at a recent board meeting.

Students are selected for the awards by their teachers and principal, based on outstanding citizenship, athletics, fine arts, academics, or most improved. These awards are designed to honor students who excel in various areas, but who are not always recognized for their work.

Lytle Creek Elementary - Cecilia Carrasco, Principal
Hector Gonzalez - Hector is an outstanding student in Margaret Christensen's second grade class and has excellent abilities in story writing and is an avid reader. He excels in math also and helps his teacher and classmates when he has spare time. His parents are Enrique and Gloria Gonzalez.

Joshabe Lopez - Joshabe is an exceptionally talented fourth grader in Linda Brown's class, according to her teacher, and is a great classroom helper and tutor. One of her hobbies is writing stories and poetry. Her mother is Maria Arelano.

Claribel Malina Romero - Claribel is a first grade student in Josie Guit's class and her teacher tells us that she has made remarkable progress in the area of language arts. She helps others and if she notices anyone not paying attention during class, she reminds them that they need to listen. Her mother is Aracely Molina.

Arrowview Middle School - Steven Perlut, Principal
Nancy Cardenas - Nancy is an eighth grader at the HAWK teaching team and is an asset to all her classes because she is a hard worker and so willing and capable. She is a member of the volleyball team and in elementary school she received an award for Most Friendly and Trying Hard. Her parents are Presentation and Maria Cardenas.

Santos Moreno - Santos is an eighth grade student with the CHIEFS teaching team. He is an extremely hard-working and enthusiastic student and has successfully mastered the skills involved in learning a second language. He was named Outstanding Student of the Year at Bradley Elementary School. His parents are Jose Luis and Aeficia Moreno.

Sara Ensor - Sara's seventh grader with the EAGLES teaching team. She has perfect attendance, no tardies, and her behavior and academic work are excellent. Her teachers say she is helpful to them and students. Her parents are Donald and Jackie Eusebio.

Cajon High School - Don Simpson, Principal
Rachel Flores - Rachel is in the twelfth grade and is taking the most academically challenging courses that Cajon offers and maintains a 4.27 grade point average. While at Cajon, Rachel has been editor of the school newspaper, a member of Junior Statesmen of America, Regional Secretary for CASA, and tutor at Del Rosa Elementary School. Her father is Alfred Flores.

Lankershim Elementary School - Arlan Anderson, Principal
Misty Hernandez - Misty's a fourth grade student in Loretta Yates' class. She is an outstanding citizen who is very supportive of her fellow classmates. Last year, she led her third grade class in the Odyssey of the Mind. Her parents are Dencice and Ramon Hernandez.

Jackie Eusebio - Jackie is in Kellie Whittaker's fifth grade class. Her teacher says she is very considerate and helpful, and she does excellent work in all academic areas. Her parents are Maxine and Kwihau Eusebio.

Victor Herrera - Victor is a sixth grade student in Ana Arcelay's class. She says Victor demonstrates good behavior and is quick to help students and staff when needed. His parents are Paulino and Mara Herrera.

Congratulations Outstanding Students

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Hispanics Have Served America With Honor and Gallantry

The Inland Empire Hispanic News extends its heartfelt thanks in sincere appreciation to the following persons and organizations for their contributions to the Veterans Day article: Borden Publishing Company, 2623 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles for permission to publish extracts from "Among The Valiant" by Raul Morin; Terri Rabi, Field Representative for Congressman George Brown, Jr., Colton, CA; Dario Villegas, High Grove, CA; Leo Avila, State Chairman, American G.I. Forum; Tony Esquibel, Immediate Past Chairman, SSGT. Ysmael Villegas Chapter, American G.I. Forum, Riverside and; Lou Gonzalez, Hispanic-American Airborne Association. Additional research was conducted by the Library of Defense for Manpower and Personnel Policy and established by this publication as final factual authority.

THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

The Congressional Medal of Honor takes its place in our country's heritage as the highest award for military valor. This honor, awarded by the President in the name of Congress, may be accorded to an individual who "distinguishes himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

The history of the medal, the deeds for which it has been awarded, and the people who have earned it are of great interest to the Nation they have served. The most supreme acts of heroism are recognized by the Medal of Honor. Hispanic-Americans have a sophisticated ancestry which dates back to the name of Congress, may be accorded to an individual who "distinguishes himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

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The list of Medal of Honor Recipients:

- Barkley, David
- Adams, Lucian
- Garcia, Marcial
- Gonzales, Harold
- Gonzales, David
- Herrera, Silvestre
- Lopez, Jose
- Martinez, Joe
- Perez, Manuel, Jr.
- Rodriguez, Cleto
- Ruiz, Alejandro
- Valdez, Jose F.
- Villegas, Ysmael R.
- Garcia, Fernando
- Gomez, Edward
- De La Garza, Emilio A. Jr.
- Dias, Ralph K.
- Fernandez, Daniel
- Gonzales, Alfredo
- Vargas, Jay R. Jr.
- Benavides, Roy P.
- Obregon, Eugene Arnold
- Rodriguez, Joseph C.
- Valdez, Jose F.
- De La Garza, Emilio A. Jr.
- Fernandez, Daniel
- Hernandez, Rodolfo
- Keith, Miguel
- Lozada, Carlos James
- Rocco, Louis
- Santiago-Colon, Hector
- Vargas, Jay R. Jr.
- Benavides, Roy P.
- Martinez, Benito
- Villegas, Ysmael R.
- Garcia, Fernando
- Gomez, Edward
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- Fernandez, Daniel
- Hernandez, Rodolfo
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- Rocco, Louis
- Santiago-Colon, Hector
- Vargas, Jay R. Jr.
- Benavides, Roy P.
Latinos Have Proud Record In Defense of Freedom

By Leonardo A. Goymerac

It is fitting that once a year we should take a moment to reflect upon the sons and daughters of Mexican/American and Spanish/American heritage who so valiantly displayed their loyalties to their country, to their families and cultural inheritance. We all stand in awe of the phenomenon of war and the changes it thrusts upon mankind. The hideous mark made by war leaves incredible scars not only on the face of our mother earth, but in our hearts and families.

Many conflagrations have touched our shores, WWII, WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam war. Each time, when the imminence of war came, Latinos unflinchingly stepped forward in defense of their country. Many were never to return again. In WWII, mothers who lost sons displayed a Gold Star in their windows. Often times mothers saw their sons return home, no longer young boys, now they were men.

Mothers were puzzled by the change they saw in their son's faces, changes wrought by being exposed not only of the horrors of war but traveling to different lands, experiencing different customs, being thrust into the military with other young men from every walk of life and cultural differences never before encountered. Paul Morin catches the flavor in his book 'Among The Valiant' when Mexican-American soldiers marched through France in the 40's, they knew we were Americans, but not 100% Americans.

The shoulder patch we wore with the 79th was a Silver Cross of Lorraine on a blue shield. As we marched through French villages, the natives often mistook us for French because of the patch, especially the Mexican Americans whom they mistook for French Moroccans, since there were a lot Moroccans with the French Army fighting right along with the 79th. Many times we were addressed by the natives in French.

Latinos Americans have served in every branch of our military by distinguishing themselves whenever they went into battle. Recorded in our country's history were two Mexican/Americans from Texas who were recipients of The Medal of Honor in the Civil War. There were 13 Medal of Honor recipients in WWII. In the Korean War there were nine Medal of Honor recipients and in the Vietnam theater there were 14. Latino Americans earned every medal that the different branches of the military might bestow.

For many returning vets, most especially in south Texas, were Mexicans who realized that having fought for freedom for so long and gone through the horror of war was not enough. We had to do something more, and the Mexican Americans were among the groups who created the Selma march and other civil rights marches.

As we march forward into the future, let us not forget the debt we owe to the service members who returned from a hundred lesser-known trials during and since World War II. America's veterans have earned all of the respect and gratitude that we express on this occasion. These Americans do not seek glory, any more than they sought the hellish test of war; however, they do ask—rightly—that their great cause be honored and remembered.

While Veterans Day is dedicated to all those who have served in our country's uniform, including veterans of more recent conflicts in Southeast Asia, Panama, and the Persian Gulf, during this 50th anniversary of World War II we remember especially those who helped to defeat the expansionist aims of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. Before time depletes us of their living history forever, we do well to learn from these veterans and from their eyewitness accounts of the Allied struggle against tyranny and aggression. World War II veterans knew firsthand of the importance of a strong, united America, and their lifelong patriotism should remain an inspiration for generations to come. While the events of a half-century ago may seem remote today, they in fact hold lessons of eternal value: the first of which is that our Nation is only as great as the character and convictions of her people, our freedom, only as certain as our moral and military capacity to preserve it.

Today many veterans are helping to maintain a strong America by supporting our present-day Armed Forces. By promoting civic education and patriotism among youth, and by helping them to recognize the difference between liberty and license, between just, democratic peace and the mere absence of war. By demonstrating the virtues of discipline, selflessness, and courage far beyond the field of battle, America's veterans continue to provide outstanding service to the cause of freedom.

On this occasion, let us offer a heartfelt salute to each and every U.S. veteran, especially those who are ill or hospitalized. Let us renew our pledge to obtain the fullest possible accounting for our POWs and MIAs and convey our respect to the brave families of those still missing. Finally, let us remember throughout the year—blessings we all too often take for granted—our comfort has come at the cost of many a veteran's youth and health; our freedom, through the sacrifices of those who faced capture, imprisonment, and even torture, in the defense of freedom. From the victors of World War I and survivors of the infamous Bataan Death March to the service members who returned from a hundred lesser-known trials during and since World War II, America's veterans have earned all of the respect and gratitude that we express on this occasion.

We thank the Office of the President of the United States of America for his contribution of this Proclamation.
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Individual Accounts of Hispanic Medal of Honor Recipients

CIVIL WAR

BAZAAR, PHILIP - Born Chile, South America, Massachusetts, G.O. No. 59, June 22, 1865. Ordinary seaman, U.S. Navy, accepted at the USS Santiago de Cuba. On January 15, 1865, one of six seamen assigned to a general that assaulted Fort Fisher, Bazaar Bravely entered the fort and accompanied his party of six men in capturing the平坦as at the height of the battle from the fleet.

ORTEGE, JOHN - Born in Spain, 1840. Seaman, U.S. Navy, accepted at Pennsylvania, G.O. No. 45 December 31, 1864. As seaman aboard the USS Saratoga and in carrying out his gallant and gallant manner in two separate battle actions and as a result, was promoted to acting master’s mate.

BOXER REBELLION

SILVA, FRANCISCO - Born May 8, 1876 in Hayward, CA. Private, U.S. Marine Corps. Accredited to California. During action against the Japanese forces on Okinawa Shima, Ryukyu Chain on April 15, 1945, the 4th Battalion of the 15th Marines, 6th Marine Division attacked a well-placed antitank fire. His commanding officer, another marine and himself were killed and the 4th Battalion was overwhelmed.

GONZALES, JAMES M. - Born and entered service in California. G.O. No. 346, June 19, 1945. Private, U.S. Army Company K, 65th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division. On April 25, 1945, in the Villa Verde Valley, Northern Philippines, Pvt. Gonzales' company was pinned by enemy fire and movement was extreme. His actions were so hazardous that he remained in the company's perimeter burying five men. Without hesitation, Pvt. Gonzales seized an automatic rifle and charged the enemy, killing 15 of his enemies.


WORLD WAR I

BARKLEY, DAVID - Born 1899 in Laredo, Texas, U.S. Marine Corps. In France battle in November 19, 1918, he and another soldier volunteered and swam the icy River Meuse, crawled 400 yards behind enemy lines, accreted and made maps of the exact location of enemy artillery units. Discovered, they swam back into the river, however, Barkley was overcome with cramps and drowed. His partner returned safely and relayed the information and maps, enabling their unit to launch a successful attack. During a special ceremony on Hispanic Heritage Week in September 19, 1899, David Barkley was recognized and his Hispanic background came to light 71 years after he gallantly gave his life for his country.

WORLD WAR II

ADAM, LUCIAN - Born and entered service in Fort Arthur, Texas. G.O. No. 20, March 29, 1943. He entered service in the 76th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division. In October 28, 1944, near St. Die, France, Sgt. Adam's company was stopped at Mission Forest in their effort to re-supply line to the isolated 3rd battalion. He single charged a force of German troops, destroying three machine guns and mending the woods of hostile elements. He is credited with eliminating hostile enemy elements which re-supplied support to the isolated 3rd battalion.

GARCIA, MARCIAL - Born on January 20, 1920 in Villa de Castaño, Mexico. Entered service in Sugarland, Texas. G.O. No. 74, September 19, 1943. Sergeant, U.S. Army, 22nd Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division. On November 17, 1944, near Kneitkin, Belgium, to protect Company K's flank which was in danger of encirclement by enemy infantry and tanks, Sgt. Lopez carried a heavy machinegun to the left flank and in a shallow hole with no protection he remained from the 1st day until the end of the German invasion. Ignoring attacking tanks, he held the position and cut down 25 additional enemy soldiers. Observing a Hill, he went to the front line and mopped up the enemy infantry and tanks, which was forcing a withdrawal of the unit, and although dazed and in pain from artillery fire, he returned to the machinegun to the rear, continuing the fire and held off the German horde until he was satisfied that the enemy had been killed and destroyed. He returned his machinegun and against a hail of small arms fire, he set up a position at the rear to fire and mow down a few comrade who were attempting to escape and were in the midst of giving away our position. He returned his position, instrument of war and was killed, in the face of fire with a bullet into his body. He was then one of the only survivors of the unit, and the only one of the unit who was killed.

RUIZ, JUAN JOSÉ - Born Loebing, NM. G.O. No. 60, June 26, 1946. Private First Class, U.S. Army Company B, 165th Infantry, 77th Infantry Division. Pvt. Ruiz' squad was pinned by machine gun fire and with heavy machine gun fire, Pvt. Ruiz' squad was forced to withdraw under fire, and in the withdrawal, he was killed. On February 2, 1946, in the Battle of Pinatubo, Luzon, Philippine Islands, Pvt. Ruiz was killed in action.

RODRIGUEZ, CLETO - Born San Marcos, Texas, entered service at San Antonio, Texas. G.O. No. 97, November 1, 1945. Technical Sergeant, Company B, 148th Infantry, 37th Division. His unit attacked a strongly fortified defensive position. As he was advancing forward under fire, he was hit and finished.

KOREAN CONFLICT

GARCIA, FERNANDO - Born in Tijuana, P.R., entered service at San Juan, P.R. Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, 1st Marine Division. On September 15, 1951 in Castle Hill, Korea, he encountered an aggressive enemy force, he and his squad advanced in support of a group of riflemen. He was hit and killed in action by enemy fire. Pvt. Garcia's valor and sacrifice will not be forgotten.

GOMEZ, EDWARD - Born and entered service in Oxnard, NB. Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company K, 5th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. On September 15, 1951 in Castle Hill, Korea, while serving as an admittance of enemy fire and enemy fire, Pvt. Gomez was hit and killed in action.

VALDEZ, JOSE F. - Born Governor, NM. G.O. No. 16, February 8, 1946. Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company B, 7th Infantry Division. When the 7th Infantry Division encountered five other comrade near Rosenkrantz, France, he observed a tank, raking it with automatic fire until the tank was on fire. Pvt. Valdez then turned to cover the five comrades, firing an encircling movement, which forced the par- ticipants to withdraw. Pvt. Valdez voluntarily covered the maneuver and as each enemy patrol advanced, he fired continuous burst into the enemy. He was struck by a bullet which entered his stomach and passed through the back. Over- coming extreme pain, he resumed his position, delivering a protective screen of fire until the panel was safe. He then covered the evacuation of five other comrades near the counterattack, he dragged himself back to his own lines. He later died as a result of wounds. His valor and sacrifice will not be forgotten.
activated charge in his hand. Determined to save his comrades, he dived into the ditch, covering the missile with his body and absorbing the shattering explosion. His valor and courage inspired his unit to subsequently repelling the outnumbering foe.

GUILLÉN, AMBROSIO - born La Junta, CO, entered service at El Paso, Texas. Staff Sergeant, US Marine Corps, Company H, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. On July 25, 1953 at Songchon, Korea, Sgt. Guillén maneuvered toward and positioned himself in the face of hostile fire, placing his men in fighting positions. Pinned down by darkness, his rifle, whose fire was an essential support of other enemy battalions supported by mortar and artillery fire. He exposed himself to heavy barrage to do his men's bidding, temporarily insured the safety of his unit and saved the lives of four comrades. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

LOBEL, AUGUSTO J. - born Vermin, WI, entered service in San Luis Obispo, CA. Sergeant, US Army, Company B, 32nd Division. On September 25, 1952 at Hill 278, Korea, Sgt. Lobel was attempting to withdraw his unit when he was pinned down by enemy fire. In an act of selflessness, he remained to expose himself to enemy fire in order to cover the withdrawal of his unit. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

MARTÍNEZ, BENITO - born and entered the service at Fort Hancock, Texas, G.O. No. 96, December 28, 1953. Corporal, US Army, Company D, 1st Battalion, 32nd Division, 1st Marine Division. On September 16, 1953 near Kimpo, Korea, Cpl. Martínez was attempting to cover the withdrawal of a fellow soldier, when he was pinned down by enemy fire. In an act of selflessness, he remained at his post and covered the withdrawal of his unit, thus saving the lives of his comrades. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

RODRÍGUEZ, JOSEPH - born Colón, Puerto Rico, entered service in San Juan, PR. Sergeant, US Marine Corps, Company F, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. On December 22, 1952 near Hill 278, Korea, Cpl. Rodríguez was supporting a 60mm mortar team. He was pinned down by enemy fire when attempting to withdraw with his unit. Realizing that there was no time for the withdrawal of his unit, Cpl. Rodríguez dashed forward and delivered a heavy, accurate volume of fire toward the enemy. Although exposed to enemy fire, he continued to fire until he was mortally wounded and killed. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

VÖRÖSSY, VIKTOR - born Budapest, Hungary, entered service in Budapest, Hungary, G.O. No. 34, April 21, 1952. Corporal, US Army, 8th Infantry Division. On September 3, 1952 near Nolichucky, Tennessee, US, Cpl. Vörössy was attempting to withdraw from a fire support base when pinned down by enemy fire. Under fire, he delivered a heavy, accurate volume of fire toward the enemy. When he was mortally wounded and killed by hostile fire, he continued to fire until the war ended, thus saving the lives of his comrades. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

WILLIAMS, JOHN - born Hopewell, VA, entered service at Fort Belvoir, VA. Private, US Army, Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Division. On November 2, 1952 near Hill 278, Korea, Pvt. Williams was attempting to cover the withdrawal of his unit when pinned down by enemy fire. Realizing that there was no time for the withdrawal of his unit, Pvt. Williams remained at his post and continued to deliver a heavy, accurate volume of fire toward the enemy. Although exposed to enemy fire, he continued to fire until he was mortally wounded and killed. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.
the rest of the world against Nazi oppression did not, for some strange reason, extend to the Mexican American at home! Purportedly, "America the home of the free and the brave." 

Response to discriminatory practices came when one of the first ethnic political activist groups of its kind, perhaps in the nation, met in Corpus Christi, Texas on March 26, 1946.

Spearheading the organization was Dr. Hector Garcia, a young medical doctor who perceived the need for a cure of an illness, not a physical one, but a disease of discriminatory practices. Socialills required medical care of a different kind and thus began the formation of The American G.I. Forum. An organization dedicated to improving social conditions for American Latinos.

Today Latino veterans have entered every conceivable field of endeavor from Law, Medicine, Education, Politics, Law Enforcement, and the Arts. The wave of social development has unfolded, much remains to be done, primarily in education. Education still remains the cornerstone of social advancement. The original G.I. Bill was the mechanism for advancement among many returning Latino G.I.'s who obtained their college degrees. An educational environment he fostered so the sage advice: "...you say education is expensive!...then what price ignorance?"

A vow should be taken in memory of those valiant Mexican/Americans who have paid the price for freedom. Mexican-American soldiers who were trapped by the brutal Philippine Death March at Bataan, Mexican/Americans and others of Hispanic decor who fought the Battles in France, Normandy, beachhead, at the battle of the Bulge and Bastogne.

No sooner had WWII ended, than the Korean War began and ultimately ended in stalemate. Almost on the heels of the Korean conflict, the alarm was sounded. Once again young men were called to fight a war nobody understood. It was some far off place called Vietnam. Young Chicanos voiced opposition on college campuses for their brothers who fell in the rice paddies of Vietnam. Latinos who died, that others may benefit in peace.

It is not only fitting to remember the Valiant, but to make a vow to our valiant fallen comrades, a vow to continue working for the pride, equality, and the cultural ideals we believe in.

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Medal of Honor - continued from page 9

SANTIAGO-COLON, HECTOR - born in Salinas, CA, entered the service at New York, NY, Specialist Fourth Class, 1st Calvary Division, Company B, 5th Battalion, 7th Calvary, 1st Calvary Division (airmobile). Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam. As a gunner in a mortar platoon, he was stationed as perimeter sentry when he detected movement in the heavily wooded area to his front and flanks. He alerted his fellow soldiers in the area to move to their foxholes. He applied enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire suddenly broke out, but darkness rendered it difficult to identify the hostile's exact position. Sgt. Santiago-Colon and other members of his platoon, 4th Marine Division, 5th Marine Division, 4th Marine Division, and 5th Marine Division, were engaged in fire support for the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Division, in the dense jungles west of Loc Ninh to gather intelligence. After a short period on the ground, the men met hard enemy resistance and requested emergency extraction. The enemy fired from a fallen comrade and landing area due to intense enemy small arms and anti-aircraft fire. Sgt. Santiago-Colon was in the front of the company and called in the position. He told his men to hold fire until he moved through a hail of enemy fire to another bunker 50 meters away and secured a grenade fragment, then resumed supervision of the battalion's perimeter defense. Because of his heroism, he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

YABE S, MAXIMO - born Lodi, CA, entered the service at Eugene, OR, 1st Sergeant, US Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Division, 1st Infantry Division, 25th Infantry Division. Company A suddenly came under intense automatic weapon fire and mortar fire followed by a bazooka round, fired from three sides. When the command post was under heavy fire and was in danger of being overwhelmed, several grenades landed within the post's area. Sgt. Yabes shouted a warning and used his body as a shield to protect others in the bunker. Although painfully wounded, he pursued the enemy and carried agrenade to another group in the post to relieve. Atlanta was reached, the enemy was ordered to evacuate the bunker and proceed. He remained in the bunker and awaited the arrival of the evacuation aircraft. Sgt. Yabes stayed until the evacuation was complete. He taught his men to hold fire until he moved through a hail of enemy fire to another bunker 50 meters away and secured a grenade fragment, then resumed supervision of the battalion's perimeter defense. Because of his heroism, he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

VARGAS, JAY R., JR. - born in San Antonio, TX, entered the service at Los Angeles, CA, 1st Sergeant, US Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Division. Company A suddenly came under intense automatic weapon fire and mortar fire followed by a bazooka round, fired from three sides. When the command post was under heavy fire and was in danger of being overwhelmed, several grenades landed within the post's area. Sgt. Yabes shouted a warning and used his body as a shield to protect others in the bunker. Although painfully wounded, he pursued the enemy and carried a grenade to another group in the post to relieve. Atlanta was reached, the enemy was ordered to evacuate the bunker and proceed. He remained in the bunker and awaited the arrival of the evacuation aircraft. Sgt. Yabes stayed until the evacuation was complete. He taught his men to hold fire until he moved through a hail of enemy fire to another bunker 50 meters away and secured a grenade fragment, then resumed supervision of the battalion's perimeter defense. Because of his heroism, he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

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