December 9th 1992

Hispanic News

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County's First Hispanic Assemblyman Takes Office

Joe Baca Takes Oath in Sacramento Ceremony

Joe Baca made history when he was sworn in on December 7th in Sacramento as the first Hispanic in the County of San Bernardino to represent the citizens of the new 62nd Assembly District, which primarily covers San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, Loma Linda and portions of Fontana.

The swearing-in ceremony was witnessed by Assemblyman Baca's family, wife Barbara, two sons and two daughters and other members of his immediate family.

This historical event was the climax of two previous election attempts by Assemblyman Baca in 1988 and 1990 when he ran against then Assemblyman Jerry Eaves who was sworn in on the same day as the new supervisor for the 5th Supervisorial District. Both campaigns were bitterly fought with charges pf two previous election attempts by Assemblyman Baca in 1988 and 1990 when he ran against then Assemblyman Jerry Eaves who was sworn in on the same day as the new supervisor for the 5th Supervisorial District. Both campaigns were bitterly fought with charges...Continued on page 6

Rebecca Gil-Hoggarth named Jerry Eaves' District Field Representative

Jerry Eaves, sworn in as the newly-elected supervisor for the 5th Supervisorial District on December 7, announced the appointment of Rebecca DeAnda Gil-Hoggarth as district field representative.

Ms. Gil-Hoggarth received an AA Degree from Los Angeles Harbor College and attended USC, with a goal of majoring in political science and public relations, however, her final educational phase was curtailed due to illness in the family.

Actively involved in the political field for many years, Ms. Gil-Hoggarth worked as administrative assistant for former Assemblyman Eaves for seven years. She previously worked as case supervisor for Congressman Glenn Anderson from Long Beach.

Ms. Gil-Hoggarth's political background begin in 1968 and has included working on presidential, gubernatorial, state senate and assembly elections, as well as supervisory, councilmanic and school district campaigns. Her experience has been at every level of political campaigning, with main emphasis in media coordination.

Actively involved during her student days, she was ASB President of Los Angeles Harbor College, a member of Outstanding College Minority Students...
I want to respond to Robert Hernandez' letter in your November 25, 1992 issue. While I empathize with Mr. Hernandez' obvious anguish over his brother's loss to Jerry Eaves in the recent Fifth District Supervisorial race, he needs to come to terms with his loss and try to see the greater benefits to the community.

Yes, Latinos had a major influence on the outcome of local elections this year. The majority of the voters showed greater confidence in Jerry than they did Ralph. That's American Politics! That's the democratic process in action. Unfortunately, Ralph misjudged the integrity and intellect of the Chicano/Latino community. Perhaps he took us for granted - that we would make electoral decisions based on emotions and/or myths? We are not a monolithic voting bloc. For the most part, we're independent, critical thinkers capable of making important decisions based on knowledge and facts.

While I do not purport to be a spokesperson for the Chicano community, I speak as an active member of "ARRIBA Y ADELANTE CON JERRY" supporters whose members include Latinos from all walks-of-life, ranging from peace officers, "salt-of-the-earth" wage earners, attorneys, business owners, educators, public servants, and elected officials, including a local senior State Senator. No, Mr. Hernandez, we are not defeated by "Los Malinches" (sic) for our indigenous ancestors on one woman denies the historical truths of the Spanish invasion 500 years ago...LET'S GET REAL, Mr. Hernandez.

Chicanos are a whole who have not yet achieved the socio-economic parity that we deserve. This is a major public policy issue which needs to be addressed aggressively. To be sure, a search of the literature, and a review of statistical data shows us to disproportionately occupy lower level positions in the workforce. The challenges to local government officials are fierce. This region faces an 11.7 percent unemployment rate, loss of thousands of defense jobs, a deep economic recession and much more. It is incumbent upon all of us to work in unison with our elected officials to forestall effective strategies to resolve these problems.

If we are to objectively measure the commitment of the candidate on the basis of his position on the issues of concern to the Latino-Chicano community, a comparative analysis will show that Jerry demonstrated that commitment. And that is why we supported our candidate...People want good government.

Again, I can understand Mr. Hernandez' disappointment. Let's establish intelligent dialogue. Feel free to give me a call and discuss ways we can help policy makers address our regional needs.

Sincerely,

(signed)
Frances Vasquez

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As is widely known, during his tenure at GTE, he was involved in community affairs and socio-educational projects (including the start of 13 years as San Bernardino Community College Trustee), continually expanding his in-depth knowledge of the needs in surrounding communities within the Inland Empire.

In summary, Assemblyman Joe Baca is a role model in many respects for most of us and more importantly, to our Hispanic youth. Knowing the importance of education, he continually challenges young people to strive for higher educational goals. He has achieved success in his chosen professional careers. He has never forgotten where his roots are and has invested prime time for the betterment of the community(s) and has helped individuals in need.

The most admirable attribute of Assemblyman Joe Baca is his belief in traditional family values. His example as a family man is well-known and is manifested by his periodic public acknowledgment of the importance he holds for family members.

Assemblyman Joe Baca is fully qualified and experienced to serve his constituents in Sacramento.
BUSINESS PROFILE:
Standard Office Systems: 27 yrs of Business & Community Service

Standard Office Systems (SOS), 1831 Commercenter West, San Bernardino is celebrating 27 years to the business of office business products and providing support services for its customers in Riverside/San Bernardino counties and the Inland Empire.

For Joe LaGreca, it has been a long stretch of years for SOS. With vision, hard work and determination, he started in his garage and den in 1965 and eventually developed the company into one of the most outstanding office service companies in the United States with 75 employees. SOS serves all of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties with its Corporate headquarters in San Bernardino and a branch office in Palm Desert.

SOS became a Minolta dealer in 1971, which enhanced the company's leadership in the area of advanced office equipment. Mr. LaGreca, current SOS President, stated; "Our growth has been based on the motto, 'Service That Satisfies'. He points out that in early 1988 his company was one of two dealers out of 330 that received Minolta's Service Management Excellence Award for maintaining an "A" rating for five consecutive years. SOS's entire staff is ready and willing to be of assistance to current and potential customers.

A typical involved SOS employee is Guy Caputo, Director of Service. He has been a national speaker on "Drugs in the Workplace" and has been a service management consultant and lecturer for eight years. He was awarded "Educator of the Year" for 1989 and top seminar presenter 1987-88 and 1989 for the National Office Machine Dealer Association. His community involvement includes working with Junior University for many years.

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PART II
1900
Immigration and Turmoil
By Pauline Jaramillo

Mexican-Americans have the distinction of being the largest and one of the oldest Hispanic ethnic cultures residing in the United States. According to the 1988 census, as cited by Angela Carrasquillo in her book, *Hispanic Children and Youth in the United States,* "Mexican-Americans accounted for 62.3% of all Hispanic Americans (that year). Contrary to public perception (however), the majority are not immigrants. In 1980 only about one quarter were foreign-born.

Spaniards (and later Mexicans) settled and began developing the regions currently known as the American Southwest, several years before the first English colony was established in New England.

In 1846, influenced by the concept of "manifest destiny," the United States invaded Mexico's northern borders and declared war. Approximately two years later the war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Hidalgo, which delegated the western part of Mexico to the United States. This opened California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado, to the United States.

Among other concessions, the treaty allowed Mexicans the opportunity to remain on their lands and become U.S. citizens, or return to Mexico. The majority opted to remain, under the belief that their land and civil rights would be honored, including their right to retain their language, religion, and cultural practices as guaranteed by the treaty.

By the start of the twentieth century, the two countries were worlds apart in their economic and social well-being, although they shared a border nearly 2000 miles in length. Torn by economic and political strife, Mexico struggled to survive as the government repeatedly changed hands from one dictator to another. The numerous revolutions and the economic upheaval, coupled with the need for laborers in the United States, became powerful incentives for migrating North.

Oscar Martinez, in an essay titled "Hispanics in Arizona," informs his readers that among the first massive wave of immigrants (between 1910 and 1920) were a significant number of middle and upper class people who were seeking to escape the chaos in Mexico. "Journalists, attorneys, physicians and businessmen from Sonora settled in Tucson's Mexican-American community, providing a needed infusion of new talent and leadership. In the years that followed (they) made a significant contribution through their professional work and involvement in civic activities."

During World War I - thousands of Mexican-Americans served valiantly in the Army and Navy where their record for voluntary enlistment was proportionately greater than that of any other ethnic group.

As the "call to arms" echoed across the nation during World War I, a substantial number of Mexican-Americans responded. Matt Meier and Feliciano Rivera in their book, *The Chicano,* state that "thousands of Mexican-Americans served valiantly in the Army and Navy, where their record for voluntary enlistment was proportionately greater than that of any other ethnic group."

Inspite of their proven loyalty through excellent service records and civic support of the war effort, their patriotism was frequently questioned and in Southern Texas, many Anglo-Americans viewed them as enemies of the United States. Despite hostility, suspicion and discrimination in and out of the military, most remained strongly patriotic during the war. In 1921 returning veterans started an organization called The Sons of America, which proclaimed their commitment to United States now sat in the Oval Office and like a lover-turned-enemy, encouraged their removal.

While Mexican labor was needed to boost the economy, Mexican immigrants were welcomed; once hired, they were paid subminimal wages, inadequately housed, segregated and discriminated against. During economically depressed times, when their labor was no longer needed, they were shipped across the border without any resources. Used, abused and abandoned, they found themselves back where they started, perhaps worse - due to their disillusionment.

Even though deportation weakened and in some cases severed social and family ties, for the most part Mexicans and Mexican-Americans drew strength and courage from each other. Whenever possible they migrated to the United States with their nuclear and/or extended family and settled in preestablished Mexican-American communities or established their own (colonies) did more than reinforce Mexican culture and society, they
development of the American Southwest

contributed to the building of strong community cohesiveness and social organization. Albert Camarillo in his book, Chicanos in California, tells his readers that Mexicans organized mutual aid (mutual aid societies) almost everywhere they settled, for the purpose of providing sick and death benefits; social, patriotic, and cultural activities; protection of civil rights; and help in adjusting to life in the United States, where they were often illiterate and without English skills. Camarillo established the Federal Farm Labor Board, which was given credit for the following statement, "it is doubtful if laborers of this class of any other nationality take care of their families as well as do the Mexican people."

In 1927, several mutualist societies in Southern California joined together to form the first umbrella labor union and by 1934, according to Meier and Rivera, Mexican-American laborers in California had effectively organized some forty agricultural unions. Most of them were short-lived. The most successful was the Confederación de Uniones de Campesinos y Obreros Mexicanos (CUOM). They led one third of the eighteen important farm worker strikes in 1935. Camarillo states that employees often used arrest and deportation as union-busting tactics. Strikers were accused of being communists by the growers, who then encouraged the authorities to use any means necessary to subdue them. Beatings, tear-gasings and arrests caused many strikes to collapse during the 1930s.

According to Camarillo, the most significant civil rights organization during that time was El Congreso de Pueblos de Habla Española (Congress of Spanish-Speaking People), which evolved partly from unionization efforts and partly from the mutual aid societies. They focused on such issues as employment, health, education, racial prejudice, equality for women and issues regarding youth. (Contrary to the stereotypic characterization in popular and scholarly journals of that period, Mexican-Americans were not a passive, apolitical people lacking organizational skills.) "They continued their heritage of building community, political, and labor organizations wherever they settled."

Camarillo continues by pointing out that the numerous patriotic celebrations and religious ceremonies which took place in most neighborhoods, helped foster a vibrant cultural and social atmosphere which contributed to the development of Spanish-language movies, vaudeville theaters, bookstores, restaurants, and shops, with a distinctive Mexican-American atmosphere.

The development of this unique environment came about by forces both internal and external. Internal in that Mexicans preferred to live close to each other and external as a result of "the de facto segregation maintained by racially restrictive real-estate covenants and discriminatory hiring practices." Although granted United States citizenship, Mexican-Americans were not accorded the amenities that went with it which further reinforced their tendency toward cohesiveness.

By aspiring to meet each other's social, economic and educational needs, the family was in many respects a miniature version of society. However, because of their role as primary care-takers, family members established a unique bond with one another and were able to fulfill needs on a more personal and profound level. The family was responsible for supplying physical and emotional necessities (food, shelter, clothing, health care, security, etc.) as well as basic education and moral training.

The family unit consisted not only of children and parents -- grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins often lived in the same household. Thus close contact with a number of older relatives provided variety and made role modeling a powerful tool for learning. Children acquired survival, occupational and artistic skills, language, morals, etiquette, etc. and became familiar with Mexican history and folklore.

The development of life cycle rituals (birth, marriage and death) as well as cultural and religious festivities, was an essential feature of the Mexican-American family and their social structure. The commemoration of life cycle rituals announced to the community the individual(s) transition from one role to another and helped the person(s) involved to adjust. Cultural and religious festivities drew the society together and forged lasting bonds.

As a result of several factors, including family and social cohesiveness, juvenile delinquency among Mexican-Americans was not very prolific during this time period. Emory Bogardus in his book, The Mexican in the United States, mentions that 13.5% of the youth incarcerated in Los Angeles County in March, 1934 were Mexican or Mexican-American (compared to over 40% in 1991). From an early age on, children were indoctrinated with the importance of family honor and respect for elders. Rebellious youths were considered subnormales (badly brought up) and were seen as a negative influence by the colonia as well as their peers.

Like most immigrants from other cultures, the majority of Mexicans who came to the United States were laborers, however a significant number were artists, educators, engineers, lawyers etc., who made valuable and lasting contributions in their respective fields. The labor class contributed to the economic well-being of the United States, as much by their labor, as by their willingness to work for subminimal wages and as consumers. When they became financially stable, many established business ranging from theaters to food markets, and formed mutual aid societies and social clubs in their neighborhoods. The active participation of Mexican-Americans during wartime, as enlisted men and civilian volunteers, is impressive. (Throughout the war history of the United States, there have been numerous Congressional Medal of Honor winners as well as recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross, and the Silver and Bronze Star for valor and courage in battle.) But perhaps the greatest contributions is yet to be appreciated -- the enrichment of both cultures by being exposed to each other's diversity.

Above and beyond their contributions, however, Mexican-Americans desire to be accepted and appreciated for who they are. They resist assimilation as a form of defiance against a nation who justifies its efforts to "Americanize" them by viewing them as needy and inferior.

The signs denying admittance to people of Mexican descent, were physically removed several decades ago -- we must now remove them mentally as well.

© 1992, Pauline Jaramillo

About the Author

Pauline Jaramillo was born in the Southwestern part of New Mexico and is proud of her family's ancestry which has been traced to Galicia, Spain. As early settlers of New Mexico, the Jaramillo's have contributed to the growth and development of that part of the state since the mid-sixteenth century.

Ms. Jaramillo has a BA in Psychology from Cal State, San Bernardino and is currently doing research work for a class on ethnic studies. As an avid writer, she has written numerous articles and short stories which have been published in various magazines.

"Racial equality," Ms. Jaramillo states, "must begin with each of us realizing our worth and potential as human beings. We must continue by seeking ways to improve our personal circumstances and finally by implementing our successes in ways that benefit society as a whole."

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When Cliff Neff was in high school, he scarcely knew his principal’s name or saw the man on campus. Having to talk to the principal usually was a sign of being in trouble.

Times have changed. Neff learned November 10 after spending a day with Principal Rick Dischinger at Colton High School. Dischinger is a familiar figure on the school grounds and students enjoy talking to him.

"Everywhere we went, kids came up to us and said ‘Hi, Mr. D.’ or ‘Hey, Mr. D., how’s it going?’" Neff said. "I was pleasantly surprised by their friendliness."

Neff, who is the owner of Computer Systems Professionals in Colton, was among 30 people who had equally positive experiences with students and staff members during the district’s first annual Principal for a Day program.

Officials from 17 community businesses were paired with principals from 17 schools in a program designed to increase awareness of the challenges and successes of public education. The event was developed by the Education Committee with members of the district and the Colton, Grand Terrace and Bloomington Chambers of Commerce.

The visitors toured their assigned campus, had lunch in the cafeteria, talked to staff and students, listened to lessons and attended school programs.

Several business leaders complemented the principals on their leadership skills.

"John Lyons really has a handle on that school," said Gene Carlstrom of TerraLoma Realty and a member of the Grand Terrace City Council, who visited Lincoln Elementary. "I say organization that would be the envy of any businessman here. All I could see was commitment and teachers working hard."

Griciano Gomez, editor of the Inland Empire Hispanic News, praised Wilson Elementary’s principal. "Mr. Chilton is running a good school. The teachers are committed. They want the kids to learn," he said.

Elsie Chan, vice president of Spectropane, helped Principal Charlotte Naugle teach a class at Zimmerman Elementary for a teacher who went home ill.

"I really underestimated the children," she said. "I thought they would need discipline. I was amazed at how well they handled the freedom given to them. A lot of future leaders will come from Zimmerman School."

Other visitors were startled at the changes in school responsibilities since they were students.

"The role of the school is changing," said Alisa Long of Cablevision in Redlands. Long, who spent the day with Doris Groves at Crestmore Elementary, found that educators are responsible for more than just academics.

"Crestmore has an after-school tutoring program for students who are homeless."

Steve Berry of BFI was surprised to see that the subject in a science class at Bloomington Junior High School was AIDS.

The business representatives agreed that it is important for businesses to support their schools. C. W. Pasfield, president of Riverside Highland Water Company, which adopted Terrace View Elementary last year, urged other businesses to form school-business partnerships.

Several school adoptions may occur as a result of Principal for a Day.

Overall, the day opened a lot of eyes to the positive efforts of the school district.

"It’s nice to see something positive," said Stephanie Nigg of Beaver Medical Clinic, who spent time with Jim Jackson at Grimes Elementary. "It’s reassuring to see the school system doing so well."

Listed below are the names of the principal, school and business representative Principal for a Day:

Linda Miller, Alice Birney Elementary, Dick Dawson; Doris Groves, Crestmore Elementary, Alisa Long; Theda McGee, Grand Terrace Elementary, Byron Matteson; Jim Jackson, Grimes Elementary, Stephanie Nigg; Marilyn Jordison, Lewis Elementary, Marty Tate; John Lyons, Lincoln Elementary School, Gene Carlstrom; Patt Ensey, Reche Canyon Elem. School, Richard Chilton; Mike Brown, Rogers Elementary, Mark Lewis; Maryetta Ferre, Terrace View Elem. School, Gene McMeans; Dale Chilson, Wilson Elementary, Graciano Gomez; Charlotte Naugle, Zimmerman Elem. School, Elsie Chan; Pat Goppert, Bloomington Jr. High, Steve Berry; Lance Otis, Colton Jr. High, Al Carazzo; Jim Downs, Bloomington High School, Don Alvarez; Rick Dischinger, Colton High School, Cliff Neff; Neil Case, Sliver Mountain High, Larry Edmondson; Terry Ameel, Zimmerman Alt. High School, David Hernandez.

Other businesses involved in the event were Colton Joint Unified School District, Empire Hispanic News, Colton Joint Unified School District, Grand Terrace Express, Colton Joint Unified School District, and Colton Junior High School.

Joe Baca First County Hispanic Assemblyman From Page 1

Margaret Hill given "Pioneer Award" in Education

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Wednesday, December 9, 1992

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THE COMMON FUND: A "Common Door of Opportunity"

By Terrie Jo Snyder

Becoming a marrow volunteer, individuals must be generally between 18 to 55 years of age, have general good health and be free of asthma, diabetes, cancer or heart disease. Also, possible donors can not be excessively overweight or be in a high risk category for AIDS or hepatitis. A simple blood test is all that is needed to join the Blood Bank's Marrow Donor Program.

Bone Marrow Donors Give "The Gift of Life"

By Terrie Jo Snyder

Becoming a marrow volunteer, individuals must be generally between 18 to 55 years of age, have general good health and be free of asthma, diabetes, cancer or heart disease. Also, possible donors can not be excessively overweight or be in a high risk category for AIDS or hepatitis. A simple blood test is all that is needed to join the Blood Bank's Marrow Donor Program.

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The Redlands office of The Common Fund manages approximately 160 accounts in the western region and manages a billion and a half dollars of assets. The total nationwide assets management for The Common Fund is 14 billion dollars.

Vicente Munoz is a native of Coli, Columbia. The bridge for Victor's migration to the United States was his grandparents who immigrated to the U.S. thirty years ago. Victor's early elementary education was in the parochial schools of Coli. His father owns printing plants and is also a publisher in Columbia. Victor was brought to the United States by his mother who divorced her husband. Victor's mother is a respiratory therapist for the Loma Linda Medical Center. Young Victor asserted that education was always a primary concern within his family and he stated that he eventually would like to attend Cal-State San Bernardino with a major in international business.

THE COMMON FUND: A "Common Door of Opportunity"