Ralph and Frances Garcia renewed their wedding vows with Father Mulumbly at St. Bernardine’s Church, San Bernardino on their 70th anniversary. The couple is surrounded by their sons and daughters. Photo by LEHN

Ralph and Frances Garcia celebrated Mass at St. Bernardine’s Church in San Bernardino on August 13, 2000, with the Reverend Edward Molumbly officiating, and renewed their marriage vows identically as they did 70 years ago on August 10, 1930 in the same church!

The religious ceremony was attended by their children, Rose Machain, Toni Garcia, Trini Garcia, Tillie Rosales, Ralph Garcia and and Jess Garcia, who were emotionally moved as Father Molumbly blessed the couple on this auspicious occasion. One daughter, Delores Garcia is deceased.

As the happy couple walked down the church aisle with their priest, the congregation gave them a standing ovation and applause.

Many relatives and friends crowded around the couple at the vestibule of the church to offer congratulation to the Garcias who, perhaps, have a record of marital longevity in our present modern society.

Ralph walks a little slower than when he and Frances renewed their marriage vows at their 50th wedding anniversary at St. Bernardine’s Church, when the parish priest, Monsignor Bradley, officiated at the Mass and blessed the couple. However, Frances is still very spry and for anyone trying to keep up with her, it is a major chore.

Continue on Page 9

San Bernardino Community College District’s new chancellor wants to invigorate the district’s “community” trademark, encourage whole-family participation in education and forge stronger economic partnerships for the benefit of some 17,000 students expected at SBCCD’s two colleges when the fall semester opens Aug. 14.

Stephanie Cereceres, president of the seven-member board, was pleased with the trustees’ unanimous decision to bring Dr. Averill onboard at an annual salary of $145,000. She said, “Now we’re ready to get going.”

With 39 years in academia, Dr. Averill, is most recently from Blythe, where, as superintendent and president of little Palo Verde Community College District for four years, he saw enrollment double among full time students.

For Dr. Averill, the move from the rural community meant assuming the duties of a far-flung SBCCD with its annual budget of around $60 million as well as these undertakings:

Continue on Page 11

IN THIS ISSUE

NEW REPORT ON HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE PG 2

 standardized health care data.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS PG 3

 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SELECTS LOCALIZED HOUSING PRACTICE AWARD

AMERICAN NATIONAL CULTURE ON THE BORDER PG 4

 ARIZONA UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE BORDER

BIBLICAL STUDIES ON THE BORDER

 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

 GOV. ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

 SAVE THE PINES CHAPLAIN

 FREE INTERNET AVAILABLE

 CHURCHES FOR JEWISH HOMES FOR THE AGED

 CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

 GIVING MONEY TO FAMILY TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR RELATIVES

 FREE INTERNET AVAILABLE

 TECHNOLOGY THROUGH THE CRISIS IN THE BIBLE

 ANTONIO GONZALEZ PRESIDENT OF AFGE TO ADDRESS DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

 WEDDING VOWS ON 70TH ANNIVERSARY PG 9

 JOE ORTIZ RETURNS TO INLAND EMPIRE PG 10

SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT’S NEW CHANCELLOR

Family values are the theme of the district’s new chancellor who is the unanimous choice for the chancellor’s post by the SBCCD Board of Trustees.

San Bernardino Community College District, when the parish priest, Monsignor Bradley, officiated at the Mass and blessed the couple. However, Frances is still very spry and for anyone trying to keep up with her, it is a major chore.

Continue on Page 9

LORENZA VASQUEZ, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST DIES

Lorenza Vasquez, raised and educated in Colton and a well known community activist in the Inland Empire, passed away on August 7, 2000.

Vasquez was involved in Colton and San Bernardino with other activists: Frank Gonzales, Pauline Garcia, Ray Abril, Jr., Tom Rivera and others in changing the system to meet the needs of the Hispanic Community, including political action, civil rights, education, social and economic issues since the 1960’s and continued to the present time.

She was also closely associated with the Cursillo in Christianity and director of C.C.D. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Bernardino for 15 years. She was employed by the County of San Bernardino County Department of Adult and Aging Services.

Continue on Page 7
NEW REPORT PROVIDES CRITICAL INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND ACCESS FOR RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS

Most Minority Americans are working yet lack job-based coverage

A comprehensive new resource being released provides new data about health insurance coverage and access to care for racial and ethnic minority populations. The report provides detailed information about coverage under public and private health insurance programs, access to care, and demographics such as citizenship, education levels, and work status within the Latino, African American, Asian American/Pacific Islander and Native American/Alaska Native populations.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Access to Health Insurance and Health Care, is a publication of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. The findings come as Congress and the White House consider extending eligibility for Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program and as the Administration continues to focus federal agencies on the elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in health.

Racial and ethnic minority groups are much more likely than non-Latino whites to be uninsured, and are less likely to have job-based health insurance coverage. Over one-third of Latinos (37%) are uninsured, the highest rate among all the groups studied and two and a half times the rate for whites (14%). Nearly a quarter of African Americans and about one-third of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have no health coverage. Uninsured rates are lower among Native Americans (17%), largely due to their ability to receive services through Indian Health Service. The insurance patterns among minority children mirror those of nonelderly minorities overall, with uninsured rates well above the rate for white children.

“The majority of the nation’s 44 million uninsured adults are white, but minority groups are disproportionately affected by the lack of health insurance. Elected officials who represent them, advocates and minority communities themselves need to recognize the tremendous state minority Americans have in this problem,” said Drew Altman, PhD, President of the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Although minority Americans made gains of three to four percentage points in job-based coverage between 1994 and 1997 due to strong economy, these gains were offset for most groups by declines in Medicaid coverage resulting in continued growth in the number of uninsured. Medicaid is an important health insurance safety net for many low-income people, including many members of racial and ethnic minorities. Due to their lower incomes, African American, Latinos and Native Americans are about three times as likely to participate in the Medicaid program as whites.

Among adults in fair or poor health, many minorities are less likely than white adults with equally poor health to have seen a physician even once in the past year. Children, although generally healthier, need visits to a regular provider as well, for prevention services and developmental evaluation. However minority children are less likely that white children to have seen a physician recently.

“For many minority racial and ethnic minorities, lacking health insurance creates a barrier to accessing basic health care and exacerbates chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer by delaying diagnosis and reducing effective management and treatment,” said E. Richard Brown, lead author of the study.

• The large majority (87%) of uninsured Latinos come from working families. Nearly a third of all Latinos compared to 13% of whites work for an employer who does not offer insurance to any workers. Regardless of the amount of type of work, or the size of the employer, Latinos are less likely to have job-based coverage adapted to whites.

• In recent years welfare reforms and changes in Medicaid eligibility for legal immigrants have decreased the number of Latinos covered by Medicaid— a critical source of coverage for over 40% of poor Latinos. Between 1994 and 1997, Medicaid coverage of Latinos overall declined from 20% to 16%, and was not fully offset by increases in job-based coverage.

• The great majority of Latinos are legal residents, still large proportions of Latinos are uninsured, including 27% of US citizens, 35% of naturalized citizens, and 44% of Latino legal immigrants.

• Health coverage varies considerably among Latino subgroups. Mexican-Americans and Central/South Americans are about twice as likely as Cubans or Puerto Ricans to be uninsured.

The Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is a non-profit, independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research conducts research on important policy-related health issues and provides data and analysis as a public service to policy makers and community organizations. The authors can be reached through the Center at (310) 794-0909.

LOS ADULTOS HACEN LA DIFERENCIA
Seis Consejos Para Ayudar A Prevenir El Embarazo De Adolescentes

Con Miles de bebés naciendo a adolescentes cada año, es crítico que los adultos tomen un papel activo hablándoles a los adolescentes sobre el sexo.

Aborde este tema puede ser más fácil de lo que usted piensa. He aquí algunas sugerencias sobre cómo los adultos pueden ayudar a prevenir el embarazo de adolescentes.

• Ponga un buen ejemplo. Los adolescentes son receptivos a los mensajes cuando estos vienen de adultos que muestran situaciones reales de comportamiento responsable. Esté seguro de comunicar sus valores haciendo el papel de un modelo positivo.

• Tome la iniciativa. Hablar sobre el sexo es fácil comparado a la ayuda de asistir un adolescente a tratar con un embarazo. Recuerde cuando usted era un adolescente, Trate a su adolescente con respeto y honestidad. Escuche atentamente. Información real sobre el sexo puede encontrarse en las escuelas, en clínicas de salud o librerías.

• Informése sobre las líneas de conducta que afectan a los adolescentes. Tome tiempo para seguir los debates públicos. Asegúrese que los oficiales elegidos sean que su comunidad espera que ellos apoyen programas de salud, educación y entrenamiento laboral para los adolescentes.

• Enviélose en la vida del adolescente. Si usted no tiene un adolescente en casa, mentores locales, programas de arte y deportes pueden darle la oportunidad de hacer una gran diferencia en la vida de un adolescente. No requiere demasiado tiempo el hacer la diferencia. Solo atención positiva y sincera.

• Tómese el tiempo para hablar con un adolescente sobre sus metas para el futuro. Si ellos no las tienen, ayúdelos a desarrollar metas alcanzables y deseables. Inspeccione regularmente su progreso para ver cómo están progresando. Es más probable que adolescentes enfocados en opciones positivas para el futuro, retrasen la actividad sexual y prevengan embarazos.

• Apoye organizaciones en su comunidad que proveen servicios a los adolescentes. Las personas jóvenes necesitan acceso a fuentes buenas de educación, recreación, entrenamientos profesionales, cuidados de salud y programas de anticonceptivos.

“Los adultos frecuentemente solamente tienen una conversación sobre sexo con sus hijos o dependen en una lección de sexto grado sobre la salud reproductiva,” dice el Vocero de La Campaña Enfrentate, Angel Martinez. “Esto no es realista. Los Jóvenes necesitan información apropiada para su edad y precisa sobre la sexualidad para tomar decisiones responsables y saludables sobre su comportamiento sexual.

Envíelesse con los adolescentes, los adultos pueden hacer la diferencia para prevenir el embarazo de adolescentes.”

Para aprender más sobre maneras de prevenir el embarazo de adolescentes, visite Get Real en www.letsgetreal.org.
THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SELECTS UCR FOR BEST PRACTICE AWARD

HUD recently recognized the University of California, Riverside program that helped farm workers get housing loans after their mobile homes were declared unsafe. The housing program was coordinated by UCR Eastside Collaborative, which serves Riverside County. The program was a non-budget item for HUD, Camiling added.

The Best Practices designation goes to well-managed HUD programs that make a difference in the lives of the people in the communities they serve, Coumo said. They serve as models of what government programs should do, he added.

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UCR volunteers' efforts were part of a $21 million federal and county push to provide affordable housing in Riverside County, said Theresa Camiling, acting senior director of UCR AmeriCorps VISTA involvement. "We literally walked them through the process of applying," Ortega said.

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UCR student groups and other Inland Empire colleges, who are volunteer members of AmeriCorps and VISTA, helped 57 farm worker families in the application process for new housing after county officials declared the mobile homes unsafe. A total of 42 students participated, Ortega said.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CORPORATION AND RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION INVEST $5.3 MILLION IN THE HEALTH OF RIVERSIDE

Community Health Corporation and Riverside Community Health Foundation, two affiliated not-for-profit organizations based in Riverside, have invested more than $5.3 million in the health of Riverside since May, 1997. These funds have supported a variety of programs, including:

- Health In Motion, a free mobile health vehicle program co-sponsored by Riverside Community Health Foundation and Parkview Community Hospital Medical Center. In its first nine months of operation, this program has served more than 5,000 patients, 59% of them children.
- Eastside Health Center. The Center, a joint venture between Community Health Corporation and the City of Riverside Health Services Agency, opened in May, 2000. Located at 1970 University Avenue, the Center serves patients on a sliding scale fee schedule. The Center also houses the Eastside Dental Clinic (operated by Community Health Systems, Inc.) and a number of outreach services.
- Defibrillators for the City of Riverside's fire units. This equipment, which is used to "jump start" and monitor a heart in the event of a heart attack, is now carried on each of the City's fire units, thanks to a grant from Riverside Community Health Foundation.
- Health education programs. A comprehensive program which provides seminars, health fairs, and other health education activities throughout our community.
- Grants to local healthcare organizations which share our mission of improving health care in Riverside. Organizations receiving grants include the County of Riverside Health Services Agency, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Parkview Community Hospital Medical Center, and Youth Service Agency.

Instructors and UCR Extension Staff will be on hand to discuss career options and educational requirements in selected areas and to answer questions about completing UCR Extension courses and certificate programs. These areas include law, GIS, information technology, e-commerce, teaching credentials, and youth programs.

For a free copy of the Fall catalog or to request a brochure about a particular program, call (909) 787-8306. For more information about the Open House, call (909) 787-4105 or toll-free (800) 442-4990.
Inland Empire Hispanic News

MORE THAN 5.8 MILLION LATINOS PLANNING TO VOTE IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

This year's U.S. Presidential candidates have been putting more effort into reaching the nation's estimated 31.3 million Latinos, and a new survey indicates their attention is well warranted. A June-July poll conducted by a group of public broadcasters indicates that U.S. Hispanics believe strongly that they have a stake in this year's presidential election—and that more than 5.8 million Latinos are preparing to vote.

The Public Broadcasting Latino Poll 2000, a partnership between six public television and radio organizations, polled 1,000 Latinos in the heavily Hispanic states of Texas, New York, Illinois, California and Florida. The results indicated that 49.9 percent of Hispanics are registered to vote this fall, and another 14.9 percent are likely to register. What's more, of those Hispanics a registered or likely to register, 59.2 percent said they were "very likely" to vote.

"This poll sends a strong message to candidates, to the political parties and to Latino leaders that U.S. Hispanics feel connected to the political process," says Dr. Edward Rincon, president of Rincon & Associates, a market research firm specializing in ethnic consumers, which conducted the poll. "It's clear that these respondents not only believe that their vote will matter but that they're ready to exercise their right to vote."

The Public Broadcasting Latino Poll 2000 is especially telling in that it sought the views of a broad cross section of the Latino population. "Most of the polls that have been done specifically exclude Latinos who are not registered to vote," says Rincon. "We understand that the nation's burgeoning Latino population is due largely to immigration, and believe that those immigrants may eventually be active in the political process."

Among the poll's findings: that while Latinos' candidate of choice varied from state to state, and Latinos polled identified with a broad range of political affiliations, there was a striking congruency on selected issues. For example, 87.4 percent favored stronger gun control laws; 94.3 percent favored health insurance for those who cannot afford it; 90.7 percent favored bilingual education; and 92 percent favored stronger penalties for companies polluting the environment.

Other findings:
• Respondents identified the top five problems facing Latinos as racism and discrimination; education; jobs and employment; immigration; and English-language barriers.
• Those polled were positive about the direction of the U.S. economy and believed their own financial conditions had improved over the past four years.
• Latinos are sensitive to the strategies used by candidates to court Hispanics. They believe the most effective strategies include those focusing on legislation that would help Hispanics, and helping serve family values.
• Among the candidates, Vice President Al Gore enjoyed a strong margin of support from Latinos polled. When asked their candidate choice if the presidential election were held today, 53.8 percent of registered voters favored Gore and 33.3 percent favored Texas Gov. George W. Bush, with 8 percent favoring candidate Pat Buchanan and 5 percent favoring Ralph Nader. "This poll provides the news media with a snapshot of Latino opinion, backed up by hard facts, to provide context to the election season dialogue," says Yolette Garcia, news director at KERA 90.1-Dallas/Fort Worth. "The poll will also offer Hispanic voters a solid basis for comparing their views with those of other Latinos."

The Public Broadcasting Latino Poll 2000 was based on 1,000 completed interviews with a margin of error of plus-or-minus 3 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval.

The Public Broadcasting Latino Poll 2000 is a partnership between KERA-Dallas/Fort Worth; the National Public Radio program Latino USA, which is produced at KUT-Austin, La Plaza, a television production of WGBH-Boston; KUHF-Houston Public Television; and KUHF-Houston Public Radio.

Pageant and Ball, the Princess Pocahontas Pageant and Ball, Noche Mexicana, Caballeros Cocktail Party, Streets of Laredo Jamboozie (including such musical groups as "Tommy and the Tomcats" and "Javier Molina & El Dorado"), fireworks, street parties, and a fantastic Jalapeño Festival (including, of course, a jalapeño spitting contest). If those who are dedicated to preserving America's "national culture" are referring to the culture in Laredo (which really is located inside the United States), they'll find plenty of support among the citizenry of this great American city located on the banks of the Rio Grande.

Mr. Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.ff.org) in Fairfax, Va.

IMMIGRATION - CITIZENSHIP CITIZENSHIP? FAMILY REUNIFICATION? WORK PERMIT? PERMANENT RESIDENCY

Your questions about Immigration and Citizenship can be resolved by truly honest professionals.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SAN BERNARDINO OFFERS THESE SERVICES

Call for an appointment: (909) 388-1243
Monday - Friday 8:30 - 11:30 & 1:00 - 4:00 (San Bernardino)
Wednesday 9:00 - 11:30 & 1:00 - 4:00 (Moreno Valley)

Ask for My-Hanh or Elisa
ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION UNVEILS PLANS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE PROGRAM

Lower Prices to wire Funds Internationally available to Inland Empire Residents this fall

GOVERNOR DAVIS APPLAUDS SAT 9 GAINS BY ENGLISH LEARNERS AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

Reinforces Commitment to Leave No Child Behind

Governor Gray Davis today expressed optimism about newly released SAT 9 scores that show achievement gains by English learners and economically disadvantaged students.

“Despite these important gains, we must remain committed to narrowing the gaps between English learners and students fluent in English, and between economically disadvantaged students and those who are not,” Governor Davis said.

Governor Davis proposed, and the Legislature approved unprecedented funding this year for intensive English language instruction, teacher training and placement, and more qualified teachers into low-performing schools.

In his FY 2000-01 budget, the governor included funding for university-based training for 70,000 teachers, as well as English instruction to students with their parents at local libraries and schools. Additionally, more $120 million is focused on the need for more qualified teachers in low-performing schools.

Want to earn a high school diploma or GED?

Want to be paid to learn construction?

We can help you if you are:

• Between 17 and 23-years-old
• Your household income is 50% or below median income
• Willing to learn the construction trade and further education
• Substance free, or the ability to become
• Interested in leadership development

Attend an information meeting to learn more about NSHS YouthBuild Wednesday, August 16, 2000 Either 3:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

Jack Hill NHSIE Youthbuild Building 1139 north E Street, San Bernardino (909) 383-1657 – Diane Jaquith
SUPPORT FOR ALZHEIMER’S

Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, August 16, 2000

Health

CAMPAIGN URGES FAMILIES TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR ALZHEIMER’S

Princess Yasmin Aga Khan, daughter of the late 1940s movie star Rita Hayworth, is talking openly about a side of her mother’s life that was anything but glamorous: her battle with Alzheimer’s disease. “When my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, few people recognized the disease, and little could be done for my mom or our family,” said Princess Yasmin, honorary vice chair of the Alzheimer’s Association. “But things are different now. Today there’s no reason for anyone to suffer in silence, as my mother did. Prescription medications to manage symptoms and support programs to improve quality of life are available for both the person with Alzheimer’s and caregiver.”

As a result of her mother’s experience, Princess Yasmin has been devoted to increasing recognition of Alzheimer’s disease including volunteering for the Alzheimer’s Association and founding the Association’s Rita Hayworth Gala in New York and Chicago. Since 1984, the Galas have raised more than $26 million for research. Currently, she is appearing in a new public service announcement (PSA), in connection with the Alzheimer’s Association, urging people to recognize the symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease and see a doctor if they are concerned about a family member. “Unlike in Rita Hayworth’s time, treatment is now available for Alzheimer’s disease,” said Jeffrey Cummings, MD, director, Alzheimer’s Disease Center, UCLA School of Medicine. “Early diagnosis is extremely important because it offers people with Alzheimer’s a greater chance of benefiting from treatment. Early medical intervention and given them more time to plan for the future. The earlier treatment begins, the greater the impact of therapy may be in maintaining patients at a higher level of functioning.” Although there is no cure for Alzheimer’s disease, treatments for the symptoms of mild to moderate Alzheimer’s disease are available, so early detection and immediate treatment are crucial.”

Medical treatments have been shown to improve cognitive function (such as thinking, reasoning and memory) and to manage symptoms associated with Alzheimer’s disease. Currently, there are three prescription drugs available to treat the symptoms of mild to moderate Alzheimer’s. Although there have been recent breakthroughs in Alzheimer’s research, a cure or prevention may be years away. New medications are under development, and several clinical trials are under way to study whether estrogen, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories and Vitamin E help prevent the disease. Unfortunately, long delays — up to three years — are common between the onset of symptoms the time a person seeks a diagnosis, because people often confuse the warning signs of Alzheimer’s disease with memory problems associated with normal aging. But despite the absence of a single diagnostic test, physicians can diagnose Alzheimer’s disease with 90 percent accuracy through tests that can be administered and interpreted in the office.

The Alzheimer’s Association developed a brochure, Understanding Memory Loss, Aging and Alzheimer’s Disease, to help families better recognize the symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease and know where to turn for help and support. In general, the following are signs and symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease when they increasingly affect everyday life: • Recent memory loss that affects job skills • Difficulty performing familiar tasks • Problems with finding the right words • Disorientation...
LORENA VASQUEZ, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST DIES

Continued from Page 1

Vasquez was survived by four daughters, Monica, Diana, Coralis and Anna, and a son, Luis.

Requiem Mass was conducted at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Bernardino with Father Ray Rosales, a close friend, officiating.

Avelina Villa a lifelong friend, presented the eulogy at the Mass. The Inland Empire Hispanic News is publishing the full text of the eulogy.

LORENA

One of Lorenza’s favorite books, now popular in Chicano Literature, was The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros. It is about a young Hispanic girl who quickly and sadly learns what it means to be Hispanic, female and poor. Appropriately enough, Cisneros calls her heroine “Esperanza” which in Spanish means hope. The setting for this story is an Hispanic barrio during the early 50's.

Cisneros focuses on the plight of Hispanic women who are victims of cultural, social, and political oppressive systems. Systems that devalue women either as sexual objects or subservient slaves to their husbands and families. It is these negative experiences that catapult Esperanza to say in the last chapter of the book, “They will know I have gone away to come back for the ones who cannot get out.”

The parallels between this book and Lorenza’s life are strikingly similar. For many of us Lorenza becomes our Esperanza. She was not only a great person, but a very committed leader in the community.

As councilwoman for South Colton, it had been my privilege and honor to work with her on various projects. Lorenza, like many others in Colton chose to stay and live here she was born, and to make a difference. She will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy to her family.

Lorenza’s death was a great loss to the community of Colton. She was not only a great person, but a very committed leader in the community. As councilwoman for South Colton, it had been my privilege and honor to work with her on various projects. Lorenza, like many others in Colton chose to stay and live here she was born, and to make a difference. She will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy to her family.

Lorenza was an outstanding advocate for the minority community and truly committed to the improvement of the educational and working condition of the Hispanic community. She was a close friend of mine for over 20 years and will be missed.

Mel Alvizo

Lorenza’s untimely death is not only tragic for her family, friends, and the community, but a great loss for the students at Colton High School. As a MECNA club booster parent since 1992, Lorenza has helped raise thousands of dollars for scholarships. Through her commitment and dedication to the club, she worked diligently to convey to our students the importance of higher education, cultural awareness, and commitment to the community. I am happy to say that she lived to see many of our students attain these goals and become active leaders in education and the community.

She was a familiar face on our campus and will be greatly missed, but her spirit will live on with those she inspired, like myself and the many students who did and will continue to pursue her vision.

Avelina Villa

Lorenza was a caring and loving cousin to me all her life. She deeply cared about her involvement in the community, her work, the schools, her church, but most of all her family and friends. Lorenza’s legacy to all who knew her was education, involvement, and God.

Her friendly smile and her concern will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Her concern for my health and wellbeing will be greatly missed. Her weekly visits, her calls to me just to find out how I was will be missed very much.

For those who did not know her you missed out on knowing one of the finest ladies I have ever known, second only to my mother Catherine, who loved her like a daughter. Until we meet again. Rest in Peace Lorenza.

Rosemary Colunga

LORENZA VASQUEZ, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST DIES

Continued from Page 1

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For those who did not know her you missed out on knowing one of the finest ladies I have ever known, second only to my mother Catherine, who loved her like a daughter. Until we meet again. Rest in Peace Lorenza.

Rosemary Colunga

Free Internet access is now available at the Dorothy Inghram Branch Library, 1005 W. Highland Avenue, and the Paul Villaseñor Branch Library, 525 N. Mt. Vernon Avenue. The San Bernardino Public Library is participating in the InFoPeople Project (http://www.infopeople.org/), which is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Through the InFoPeople Project each of these branches received two computers with Internet access, one for staff and the other for the public. Training will be provided to the staff and classes for the public will soon be available. All Internet users will be asked to sign an Internet Public Access Policy form. A parent or guardian will be asked to sign for minors under eighteen years of age.

To schedule an appointment for the Internet station, please call the Inghram Branch Library at 909/887-4494 or the Villaseñor Branch at 909/383-5156.
TEEN SUICIDE: KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

An estimated 7,000 American teens take their own lives each year. That amounts to a parent (or parents) losing a son or daughter to suicide every hour and 45 minutes. U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher has deemed teen suicide a national health emergency and has issued a call to action to combat this teen epidemic.

The Jason Foundation Inc. is an organization dedicated to teen suicide awareness, education and prevention. It was formed in 1997 after the tragic suicide of the founder’s son Jason Flatt. Alarmed to discover that suicide is the second leading cause of death for teens ages 15 to 19 and that few programs are available addressing prevention strategies Clark Flatt created the Jason Foundation. The organization presents seminars for adults and teens to help reduce the incidence of this tragedy and understand it when it occurs.

Since 1970, the youth suicide rate has tripled. In fact, according to a 1992 study, more teenagers and young adults die each year from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia and chronic lung disease combined.

The Jason Foundation offers these warning signs for parents, teens and friends:

- Suicide Threats - Saying things like “I would be better off dead” or “Nobody would miss me if I were dead.”
- Previous suicide Attempts - Four out of five successful suicides are not from a first attempt, so don’t discount such an event as something a teen will “get over,” or something done for attention.
- Sudden Changes in Behavior - When a teen’s personality seems to “flip” (quiet to loud, gentle to aggressive, outgoing to withdrawn), or school behavior (attendance, grades) changes suddenly, take it seriously.
- Depression - Extended periods of “the blues” and feelings of being alone with no one caring are not normal, even for teenagers. Sleep disorders and eating disorders can also be symptomatic of self-hating impulses.
- Final Arrangements - When teens give away prized possessions (favorite jacket, a treasured collection), or ask friends to “take care of” certain obligations when they’re not around.
- In addition to seminars, the organization helps form clubs in middle and high schools to provide a positive peer support group for teens.

A national partner of the foundation is HomePoint, a leading provider of e-business solutions to the home furnishings industry. Through the partnership, HomePoint sponsors local, regional and national initiatives to help battle the problem of suicide.

HomePoint has also used its Internet expertise to help launch the Jason Foundation website to make it a more interactive and informative site for a broad range of users.

To learn more about this lifesaving organization, call the Jason Foundation at 888-881-2323 or visit the website at www.jasonfoundation.com.

OVARIAN CANCER: THE SILENT KILLER

Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of gynecological cancers and the fifth-leading cause of cancer death among American women. Each year alone, more than 25,000 women will be diagnosed with the disease and more than 14,500 will lose their lives to it. Although ovarian cancer is most common in women over the age of 50, it can affect women of any age.

With no effective, easy-to-use means of early detection currently available for ovarian cancer (equivalent to a PAP test for cervical cancer or mammogram for breast cancer), many women may miss the disease’s often subtle and vague symptoms. Symptoms may include: pelvic and/or abdominal discomfort or pain; vague but persistent gastrointestinal complaints such as gas, nausea, and indigestion; unexplained changes in bowel habits, frequency and/or urgency of urination; weight loss and ongoing fatigue.

Because of this, 75 percent of cases are detected at a late stage and as a result, less than 46 percent of all ovarian cancer patients are alive and disease-free five years after diagnosis. However, if detected and treated early, the five-year survival rate is 95 percent.

Fortunately, clinically important advances in diagnosis and treatment are being made every day. The Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (OCRF) is making a tremendous impact on the world of ovarian cancer research, having funded numerous cutting-edge research projects across the country.

Now, 1-800-FLOWERS.COM has partnered with OCRF’s quest to raise awareness and funding for research. 1-800-FLOWERS.COM will donate 10 percent of net proceeds from the sale of each product in its Power of Pink™ collection of gift ideas, or call OCRF’s toll free hotline at 1-800-873-9569.

ANTONIO GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT OF SVREP, TO ADDRESS DEMOCRAT CONVENTION FLOOR ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON BEFORE GORE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Antonio Gonzalez, President of SVREP, was tabbed by the Democratic National Committee as one of the featured speakers assigned to address the delegates on the convention floor on Thursday afternoon prior to Vice President Al Gore’s acceptance speech. His address was at 3:30 P.M., PST.

Antonio Gonzalez is the leading expert on the Latino electorate and their voting trends. “Latinos, for the first time, will make the difference not just in the presidential race, but also other key national, statewide and local elections,” states Antonio Gonzalez, SVREP President.

Southwest Voter Registration Education Project is in the midst of the “Latino Vote 2000” Campaign. The goal of the campaign is to mobilize one million new voters for the November elections. Currently, there are 7.2 million registered Latinos. These numbers indicate that Latinos will have a significant impact on the November elections. SVREP is a non-profit, non-partisan civil rights organization created to empower Latinos and other underrepresented communities through civic participation. Latino Vote 2000 is comprised of SVREP, the Chicago based US Hispanic Leadership Institute and the New York based Northeast Voter Education Project.

For more information please contact Angela Acosta at (323) 343-9299 or Mike Flores, Verches Flores, at (626) 396-1166.
Ralph and Frances Garcia posed with their children at St. Bernardino’s Church after a special Mass celebrating 70 years of married life. Background (l to r) Ralph, Tillie, Jess, Toni, Trini and Trudy. Photo by IEHN

After the celebration of the Mass, sons and daughters planned a reception and breakfast at a local restaurant.

The Garcia family history is a pattern that has been repeated thousands of times within the last century and beyond. The struggles to immigrate to a new land, seeking employment when confronted with language barriers, keeping families together and cohesively supporting each other and, most importantly, keeping their Catholic faith and family traditions and culture in an unknown land is a symbol of endurance.

Ralph Garcia was born in Abasolo, Guanajuato, Mexico in 1909 and at age four, was brought by his parents to San Bernardino. (Abasolo was the town where the majority of Mexican families came from to settle in San Bernardino and work at the Santa Fe Railroad at the turn of the century.)

Frances Arriola was born in Gallup, New Mexico in 1910 and as a small child, the family moved to San Bernardino.

The two families became very close and traveled together as migrant workers to pick grapes, onions, cut apricots in Hemet and other crops at Cucamonga (as it was called) and other regions in Central California.

Ralph attended Berkeley Elementary School in the Meadowbrook area, adjacent to the “barrio de los chinos”, and at was the custom with Mexican families, terminated his education at the fourth grade to work in the fields and help support the family.

Frances attended Ramona Elementary School, which at that time was situated at 20th and Pico, next to Guadalupe Church. She later attended Ramona School when it was situated at La Placita Park on 7th and Mt. Vernon. Frances also quit school at an early age.

The two close families continued to migrate to the harvests and return home at the end of the seasons for many years.

Social life was limited except for cultural and religious functions. However, Frances remembers attending dances at the Urbhta Ballroom and local dances with her sisters and always chaperoned by her aunt.

The closeness of the two families throughout the years, living in San Bernardino and when traveling during the harvest season also became the magnetic force in which Ralph and Frances became more attached to each other, first as friends and later becoming closer as they grew older.

In August, 1930, while harvesting the crops in Fresno, the couple eloped and were married.

That action, getting married in a civil ceremony, didn’t set well with the families and when the couple returned to San Bernardino on the following month, a formal Catholic ceremony was performed at St. Bernardine’s Church.

Ralph continued picking oranges and harvesting grapes. He remembers when thousands of people from Oklahoma migrated to California in the middle of the depression and also picked oranges. “Picking oranges with these fellows forced me to learn English,” he said.

Frances also continued harvesting grapes. However, she began to do house work and finally decided to become a housewife after getting hurt in one of the jobs.

In 1941, Ralph was employed by Kaiser at Fontana and retired in 1975, after working for 34 years. Even when working at Kaiser, he and Frances would work the grape harvest at Cucamonga and other regions.

In an interview at Garcia’s attractive home on Grant Street, Ralph was asked the question as to what was the success to their marriage. He stated very forcefully that Frances was the important person that kept him on the straight path, guiding him and raising the children.

Interviewing Frances separately, she related about the struggles to keep the family intact throughout the many years. She stressed the constant need to work alongside her husband to keep the family financially secure.

“We struggled together for many years for our children who were very important to us and for ourselves. Having the family together was the important thing in our lives. I think that, maybe, we have been successful,” she said.

Nowadays Ralph is a strong Dodger fan, reads, watches TV and works on his garden on a daily basis. “He is proud of his garden and keeps every bush trimmed,” said his daughter, Rose.

The family is very close-knit and get together on many occasions throughout the year. Rose stated that her brothers and sisters call daily to the house and converse with Ralph and Frances, relating what has occurred in their respective families, (he is now beginning to have hearing problems).

“The most important time of the year is at Christmas time, when all our families get together at our parents’ home and celebrate,” Rose said.

Aside from the two brothers and 4 sisters, the clan consists of 29 grandchildren, 44 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren.

Ralph and Frances Garcia pose in an early photograph taken in June, 1944. The couple celebrated 70 years of marriage and repeated their wedding vows at a special Mass at St. Bernardine’s Church, the identical church where they were married in August 10th, 1930.

The families are proud that there are five Marines that have either served or are serving their country: David Lambert-1950, Jess Garcia-1960, Master Sergeant Michael Perez-2000, Peter Munoz-in boot camp and Valerie Wilkies-2000.

Our father is the head of the family and has worked very hard for us all these many years and we appreciate what he has done. Our mother is the foundation and the glue that has kept our family together. She is the one that listened and gave advice and is always there for us. We have all adopted the family values, traditions and Catholic faith that our parents have taught us. All of us, the children, grandchildren and the rest of us, have been blessed by having wonderful parents. We hope that they will be with us forever.

Daughters Rose, Toni, Trini, Tillie and sons, Ralph and Jess

When we married into the family, we were immediately accepted as daughters, especially with Frances. We are glad to be part of a beautiful family.

Daughters-in-law Linda and Eleanor

Ralph and Frances Garcia walking down the aisle at San Bernardino’s Church with Father Mulumby after Mass celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. Photo by IEHN

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JOE ORTIZ RETURNS TO INLAND EMPIRE, WILL RAISE FUNDS FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Joe Ortiz, a former Los Angeles-based radio and television broadcaster and public relations specialist, is returning to his roots in the Inland Empire to work for the San Bernardino/Riverside Catholic Charities. Sr. Georgianna Cahill, the organization’s Executive Director, said the Indio, California native has been hired as the organization’s Director of Development and Public Relations.

Cahill stated Ortiz’s responsibility is to strengthen the organization’s development and public relations department, establish stronger ties with both media and funding sources, and to make the public more aware of the services Catholic Charities is providing the citizens of the Inland Empire.

“Joe Ortiz brings to Catholic Charities a wealth of media talent and many years of fundraising experience with groups and organizations that touch people’s lives,” said Sr. Georgianna. “His return to his (Coachella Valley) roots for us is so timely, as we see an even greater need to serve the growing poor and those most in need in the Inland Empire.”

After graduating from Coachella Valley Union High School, and serving a stint in the U.S. Air Force, Ortiz left Indio and attended Riverside City College and the University of California at Riverside and obtained teaching credentials from UCLA. He has spent most of his adult career in the Los Angeles area after working for several agencies in the Inland Empire, including positions as a job developer for the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation in Riverside, a job preparedness instructor at Riverside City College, and as a human relations specialist at Ramona High School.

He moved to Los Angeles in 1969 to work as a job agent and parole officer for the State of California, then worked for the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency as a public information specialist, and then with Los Angeles City Councilman John Ferraro as a press deputy.

Ortiz stated, “I have always been interested in helping those in need and in using my experience and vast media and fundraising network to enhance Catholic Charities’ mission.”

Catholic Charities has been working on the challenge.

“Most average citizens recognize they are living in very difficult times nowadays. Imagine the struggles being faced by the less fortunate,” said Ortiz. “Therefore, our department plans to be more active in telling the story of the positive impact Catholic Charities is having in addressing these issues, to both the community and to those who financially support this much needed service.”

MEXICAN PAPER SCULPTURES COME TO SAN BERNARDINO

Technology developed by a Mexican couple leads to artistic creation.

The Mexican Consulate in San Bernardino has invited Sergio Elizondo and Rosa Elena Ponce, from the state of Chihuahua, to bring their “Esculturas con Pulpa de Papel” (Sculptures made of paper pulp), to the Inland Empire.

The exhibit will be hosted at the Carousel Mall, in downtown San Bernardino, from August 15 through the 17th. On the 18th, it moves to the Consulate’s office, 293 N. “D” St., as background for the official opening of the Consulate’s new location.

Mr. Elizondo and Ms. Ponce, are both graduates of the Technology Institute of Monterey, and had been working in creating the new sculpting material for several years before perfecting it. The complete process is done by hand, from producing the pulp to its final shape, texture and color.

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SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT’S NEW CHANCELLOR

Continued from Page 1

• Construction projects of historic proportions, including the re-construction of 74-year-old Valley College campus to deal with seismic concerns.
• The addition of classrooms and remodeling of others at 28-year-old Crafton Hills College, Yucaipa.
• Negotiations for the sale of present district headquarters at 441 W. 8th Street, San Bernardino, and construction of new offices and computer classrooms at San Bernardino International Airport (formerly Norton AFB), where the Air Force’s NCO Academy building has been demolished to make way for the new structure.
• A joint effort with city and county of San Bernardino to build a multimillion dollar regional center at the airport for FAA-required training for aircraft-related fires and rescues.
• Education of a burgeoning Inland Empire population projected in the next 10 years to increase by 135% within the district’s boundaries alone.

About SBCCD’s wave of activity, Dr. Averill said, “I think I can contribute to getting the district where it wants to go from here.”

He is also ready for new technology that is at the forefront of all SBCCD construction projects. Among his top interests is beefing up the high school student transfer program and involving families in education decisions.

Dr. Averill’s former 9.8 Palo Verde College, in a farming and state prison community on the California-Arizona border, began moving to a new 200-acre site under his leadership, and new industry followed. The student enrollment if less than one fourth that of SBCCD’s two colleges, and accordingly forged partnerships with other colleges and universities, one is Park College, Missouri, from which 14 Palo Verde students received baccalaureate degrees in June.

Dr. Averill, 62 includes in his experience, more than seven years of teaching for Cal State, Los Angeles, Long Beach and San Luis Obispo, as well as seven years as a secondary school teacher.

He held the following posts during a 39-year-span; Glendale CCD vice-president of human resources, 1990-1996, after five years there as dean of instruction and career education; Coast CCD vice chancellor for educational planning, 1977-1984, Coastline CCD’s area dean for a year; Huntington Beach School District’s director of career education, 1972-1977, and Whittier Union High School’s work experience coordinator, 1967-1972.

Dr. Averill earned his doctoral degree from the University of La Verne and master’s and bachelor’s degrees from Cal State, Los Angeles. He received an administrative credential from University of Southern California and also studied at community colleges in Los Angeles.

FREE LEGAL AID FOR TEEN PARENTS!

According to the Dept of Health Services, in 1997, 61,107 California teenagers gave birth—63% were to Latinas. Inland Empire Latino Lawyers is hosting a Media Conference/Informational session to promote a new FREE program that provides legal advice/representation for low-income teen parents.

Who: Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association
What: Media/Informational Conference to Promote “One Step Further Program”
The Legal Rights of Teenage Parents
When: Wednesday, August 23, 2000, 5 p.m.
Where: Cesar Chavez Community Center
2060 University Avenue, Suite 206
Riverside CA 92507

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Children’s After-school Program for success is in need of your assistance. Positions are now available for adults 18 years of age and older.

You must be a High School graduate or possess a G.E.D.
Apply at San Bernardino City Hall,
300 North “D” Street, 2nd Floor or call 384-5231

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“EL ALMA AL AIRE”
El Nuevo Disco De Alejandro Sanz Saldra a la Venta en Septiembre

Como ya hemos informado con anterioridad Alejandro Sanz está actualmente en Miami grabando su nuevo álbum que llevará por título “El alma al aire”.

Alejandro Sanz se encuentra en un momento creativo excepcional, y ha compuesto las que posiblemente sean las mejores canciones de su carrera. Este disco incluirá diez nuevas composiciones.

Emanuele Ruffinengo (coproductor de los anteriores álbumes de Alejandro Sanz, “3” y “Mas”) está produciendo este nuevo disco, grabado con un sistema digital diseñado especialmente para este proyecto.

Algunos de los músicos que colaboran en “El Alma al Aire”, ya habían participado en anteriores grabaciones de Alejandro Sanz: Vicente Amigo, Alfredo Paixao, LudovicoVagnone, etc.

Otros, como Josemi Carmona, Montse Cortés, Chaboli o Paquito Echevarria colaboran por primera vez en un disco de Alejandro Sanz. A mediados de julio esté previsto que den comienzo las mezclas de “El alma al aire”. Serán realizadas por los mismos ingenieros que mezclaron “MÁS”, Renato Cantele y Mauricio Biancani.

El nuevo disco de Alejandro Sanz “El alma al aire”
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