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Ralph and Frances Garcia renewed their wedding vows with Father Mulumbly at St. Bernardine’s Church, San Bernardino on their 50th anniversary. The couple is surrounded by their sons and daughters. Photo by IHN

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 congratulations 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.

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SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT’S NEW CHANCELLOR

Dr. Donald F. Averill is the new chancellor for San Bernardino Community College District. He has a deep interest in a closer connection to the communities serving the district’s 17,000 students at Valley College and Crafton Hills College, Yucaipa. He was the unanimous choice for the chancellor’s post by the SBCCD Board of Trustees.

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 SBCCCD’s two colleges when the fall semester opens Aug. 14.

Stephanie Cerveceres, 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
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 Administration for Children and Families. 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 in 2001 were minority, and black, Latino, and Native American children were 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, President of the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Although minority Americans made gains of three to four percent 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 development evaluation. However minority children are less likely that white children to have seen a physician recently.

“For many 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, professor of preventive medicine and the director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the lead author of the study.

Key Findings for Latinos

• Nearly 4 in 10 Latinos are uninsured. The high rate is driven by lack of employer-based coverage with only 43% covered through the workplace, compared to 73% of whites.
• 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 all workers. Regardless of the amount of type of work, or the size of the employer, Latinos are less likely to have job-based coverage compared 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 growth in employment-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 the 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 hablandoles a los adolescentes sobre el sexo.

Abortar 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. Estén seguro de comunicar sus valores haciendo el papel de un modelo positivo.

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.

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• Tómate 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 para ver cómo van de un año a otro e inscribálos al programa 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 de información sexual y media positiva.

• Ponga un buen ejemplo. Los adolescentes son receptivos a los mensajes cuando estos vienen de adultos que muestran situaciones reales de comportamiento responsable. Estén seguro de comunicar sus valores haciendo el papel de un modelo positivo.
HUD recently recognized the University of California, Riverside program that helped farm workers get housing loans after their mobile homes were declared unsafe by county officials.

Lucia Ortega, who directed the program for UCR, was in Washington D.C. in August to receive a Best Practices Award for the program. She and a group of volunteers met with farm workers at assistance centers, community halls and churches in the Coachella Valley to make sure the families got the help they needed. The UCR program is one of four in Riverside County and 2,900 in the nation.

"These homes have no air conditioning. Many have bare wires coming out of the walls," said Ortega, director of the University Eastside Community Collaborative, which organized the effort. "In one home, they had a towel wrapped around the refrigerator to keep it from electrocuting the kids, when they touched it."

Volunteers went to the fields, to the markets, and to the churches to help them apply for low-interest or no-interest loans. The volunteers went out two Saturdays each month from January to June in Oasis, Mecca, Thermal and Coachella. "We literally walked them through the process of applying," Ortega said.

The 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 at HUD's Santa Ana office, which serves Riverside County. UCR AmeriCorps VISTA involvement was a non-budget item for HUD, Camiling added.

The UCR AmeriCorps Vista project worked along with two other local programs that won recognition: the University Eastside Collaborative-AmeriCorps, recently a recipient of HUD's BEST PRACTICE AWARD.

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. "When you serve as models of what government programs should do," he added.

UCR student groups and other Inland Empire colleges, who are volunteers 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.

"Don't forget to advertise in the Inland Empire Hispanic News."
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 broadcast- ers 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 thisfall, 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 Hispanic­as, 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; KUHT-Houston Public Television; and KUHF-Houston Public Radio.

People who rail that America's "national culture" is threatened by im­migrants never explain which national culture they are referring to.

I recently visited my hometown of Laredo, Texas, which is located on our nation's Southern border. In grocery stores and department stores half the signs are in Spanish and store employ­ees greet people in Spanish. There are a few pizza parlors and even a Chi­nese restaurant, but they can't com­pare to the many restaurants selling enchiladas, menudo, chalupas, and tacos.

Laredo, which today has a popula­tion of 155,000, was founded in 1755 by a Spanish officer named Don Tomas Sanchez de Barrera y Gallardo, who named the town Villa de San Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, after Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, the father of Mexican independence.

Another is Hidalgo Street, named af­ter Emperor Agustin Iturbide, the first ruler of independent Mexico. During my recent visit to Laredo, I noticed that the streets in a brand new resi­dential subdivision had been named after coastal cities in Mexico, such as Puerto Vallarta.

After Texas won its independence from Mexico in 1836, Laredo refused to recognize Texas rule and for a time served as capital of the Republic of the Rio Grande, which consisted of a coalition of three northern Mexican states and southwest Texas, which were themselves revolting against Mexican rule, unsuccessfully. As part of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo at the end of the Mexican War in 1848, the war by which the United States acquired the northern half of Mexico, Laredo officially became part of the United States. (At the same time Nuevo Laredo, on the other side of the Rio Grande, was founded by Mexican Citizens who want to remain in Mexico rather than live in the United States.)

The long-established culture in Laredo has been one in which people informally converse with each other in either English or Spanish (or Tex­Mex, a peculiar blend of languages in which the conversants slip back and forth between English and Spanish, sometimes even within the same sen­tence). The local Spanish television channel and the Tacom (mixture of English and Spanish) radio stations seem to be at least as popular as the English-language ones. Generally people are indifferent to the particu­lar language being spoken, and every­one is accepting of those who speak only English, sometimes even marrying them (as my mother did).

But even the English-only crowd speaks a little Spanish when they visit what was once Mexico. After all, when was the last time you heard anyone say that he personally saw St. Anthony and after traveling through the Yats, visited St. Francis and ended up visiting in the Angels (San Anto­nio, El Paso, San Francisco, and Los Angeles)?

Oh, did I mention that for more than 100 years, Laredo has had the largest bash in the country celebrat­ing George Washington's birthday? Sixteen fun-filled days every Febru­ary, including a grand parade with George and Martha Washington and their court in colonial garb on floats, the Society of Martha Washington Pageant and Ball, the Princess Pocahontas Pageant and Ball, Noche Mexicana, Caballeros Cocktail Party, Streets of Laredo Jamboozee (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.
ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION UNVEILS PLANS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE PROGRAM

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

Arrowhead Credit Union (ACU) unveiled plans for an innovative international wire service program. Under the new program, Inland Empire residents with family members in Mexico and other countries could save hundreds of dollars a year in international wire transfer fees.

"Our fee for performing wire transfers to Mexico will be $8 per $1,000 in U. S. currency," said Maurice Calderon, ACU Senior Vice-President of Community Development. "That's a pretty good deal considering our private competitors typically charge anywhere from $30 to $50 to perform the same transaction. And we'll even bite our customers to make a three-minute, long-distance phone call at no extra charge so they can let their family members know the money is on its way. This heightens the security of the transaction." ACU plans to complete the final stages of tests on the program soon and estimates the service to be available in October.

Calderon said Arrowhead Credit Union is providing the new wire transfer service at the new 5th and Mt. Vernon branch opening in October and at other branches at the end of the year. The service will be available to credit union members and non-members alike.

"I think this is a tremendous service, particularly for the thousands of Inland Empire residents who have family members in Mexico and other Latin American countries," said San Bernardino Mayor Judith Valles.

Calderon said Arrowhead Credit Union was able to offer the program through an arrangement with the Madison, Wis.-based World Council of Credit Unions, Inc. The council recently finalized a partnership agreement with Vigo Remittance Corporation, which allows credit union members in 41 countries to send money to family members and save on fees and exchange rates with the expansion of its International Remittance Network (Inter).

Vigo's exchange rate is usually 3.5% off the interbank rate in comparison to those of well-known wire transfer companies, whose exchange rates can be as high as 20% off the interbank rate. Additionally, other wire transfer systems charge commission fees ranging from 5% to 29% of the transfer, which dramatically decreases the amount to the recipient. Vigo has negotiated low-cost fee structures from each country. As an example, Vigo's fee is $8 for the first $1,000 transferred to Mexico.

Imet transactions through Vigo also provide services other competitors are not currently offering. A sender's receipt specifies the exact amount of money the recipient will receive versus an approximate amount. In addition, the sender receives a free three-minute phone call to notify the recipient of the transfer, providing additional security for the transaction.

The world council of Credit Unions, Inc. is the apex trade association and development organization of the international credit union system. As instruments of economic and social development, World Council, its regional confederations, and national member organizations in more than 85 countries with nearly 40,000 member credit unions serve an estimated 100 million people worldwide. Visit them on-line at www.wccui.org.

Arrowhead Credit Union is a financial cooperative serving more than 95,000 members with over $450 million in assets. Visit us online at www.arrowheadcu.org.

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

"These scores indicate that our focus on improved academic achievement is taking hold for all groups of students," Governor Davis said. "While we still have a long way to go, I am pleased that as we raise expectations in California schools, all students are benefiting from our efforts." English learner test scores are up in nearly every subject and every grade, with the most significant gains shown in grades two through five. English learner reading scores for 2nd graders are up six points, or 31 percent. In math, scores for English learners in grades two through five are up an average of seven points, or 25 percent. Similar gains were also achieved by economically disadvantaged students. Significantly, parallel gains were reported for students in all subgroups on the California Standards-based tests in English language arts and elementary math.

"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 of 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, with an emphasis on math, reading, instruction of English language learners and teaching to higher standards across the curriculum. A $260 million program will provide 120 hours of intensive English language instruction this school year to 625,000 students, as well as English instruction to students with their parents at local libraries. Additionally, more $120 million is focused on the need for more qualified teachers in low-performing schools.

Please visit http://star.ucd.edu.gov/ for a complete listing of SAT 9 results.

Martin Valdez, newly elected president of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce addresses the audience at the 44th Annual Installation and Awards Ceremonies at the San Bernardino Hilton. Valdez outlined the goals and objectives of the chamber for the forthcoming two-year term of office. Photo by IEHN

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
- Not currently enrolled in a formal educational program
- 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 NHSIE 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
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 $28 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 early medical intervention and gives 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 underway 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
- Poor or decreased judgment
- Problems with abstract thinking
- Misplacing things
- Changes in mood or behavior
- Changes in personality
- Loss of initiative

To learn more or to get a copy of the brochure Understanding Memory Loss, Aging and Alzheimer’s Disease, call the Association at (800) 272-3900, visit www.alz.org or contact your local Alzheimer’s Association chapter.

The PSA and the Alzheimer’s disease educational campaign are provided with support from Eisai Inc. and Pfizer Inc. are committed to a collaboration dedicated to advances in Alzheimer’s therapy.

Made for shade. That’s the purpose of Riverside Public Utilities’ Tree Power program. Local resident Laura Merrill was very happy to find out she qualified to take advantage of the utilities’ new tree program. She was also surprised to learn that planting trees during the fall and winter seasons can help tree roots develop quicker and stronger.

The Tree Power program offers eligible Riverside residents a rebate on the purchase of up to three trees, from a specified list, that will assist them in cooling the home and saving energy. Program guidelines and certain restrictions apply. If you are interested in the Tree Power program, call Programs and Services at (909) 826-5485.

“Thank you, I love my trees.”

“Thank you, I love my trees.”

This is an excellent program to offer customers. My new trees will be big, shady, beautiful trees that will keep my house much cooler.”

Laura Merrill
City of Riverside resident

The Tree Power program offers eligible Riverside residents a rebate on the purchase of up to three trees, from a specified list, that will assist them in cooling the home and saving energy. Program guidelines and certain restrictions apply. If you are interested in the Tree Power program, call Programs and Services at (909) 826-5485.

RIVERSIDE
PUBLIC UTILITIES
Real people. Real needs. Real benefits.
LORENZA VASQUEZ, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST DIES
Continued from Page 1

Vasquez was survived by four daughters, Monica, Diana, Coralita 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.

LORENZA

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 focus is 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 who at first succumbs to the stereotypical Hispanic woman, 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 life are strikingly similar. For many of us Lorenza becomes our Esperanza who at first succumbs to the stereotypical Hispanic woman, 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.

Betty Cook, Colton Councilwoman

Lorenza was instrumental in organizing the Chicano Movement in 1960’s with other activists in Colton and the Inland Empire. She was also very active with MECHA students at Colton High School in raising funds, planning cultural events and as an advisor. Our Community will miss her very much.

Ray Abril, Jr., Colton School District Trustee

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 Alviso

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 MECHA 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 well-being 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
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-loathing 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 relaunch 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.

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

OVARIAN CANCER: THE SILENT KILLER

Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of gynecological cancers and the fifth-lead ing 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% 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 Pink0153 collection of gift ideas, or call OCRF’s toll free hotline at 1-800-873-9569.

Pictured above are the award recipients at the 44th Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, held at the San Bernardino Hilton. L to R, Bruce Satzger, President, Community Hospital; St. Bernardine's Hospital, Martin Valdez, president, William Aguilar, Director and Raul Medrano, Gabriel Ramirez, Manuel Acosta, Jr., Treasurer, Graciano Gomez, vice-president, Martin Valdez, president, William Aguilar, Director and Raul Medrano, president, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Center is Juan Jose, Salgado, Consul de Mexico. Medrano and Salgado were installing officers. Photo by IENH

The Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce held its 44th Installation of Officers and Awards Dinner at the San Bernardino Hilton. Pictured above, l to r, is the new board of directors: Lila Calviño, Charlie Gabriel, Lou Warren and Gabriel Ramirez, Manuel Acosta, Jr., Treasurer, Graciano Gomez, vice-president, Martin Valdez, president, William Aguilar, Director and Raul Medrano, president, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Center is Juan Jose, Salgado, Consul de Mexico. Medrano and Salgado were installing officers. Photo by IENH

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Wednesday, August 16, 2000
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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 2 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 Wilkses-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 or joined associations in our families, especially with Frances. We are glad to be part of a beautiful family.

Daughters-in-law Linda and Eleanor

Employment Tip of the Week - Brought to you by Employment Review and BestJobsUSA.com

Regardless of what position you hold, it’s imperative to be at the top of your game.

• Keep your skills current.
• Assess yourself against others in your field.
• Read trade journals, newsletters or join associations in your area of expertise to stay on top of ongoing changes in your profession.

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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, 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. He later served in various public information positions at Los Angeles Unified School District and South Bay College, before working for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) as its Director of Corporate Development and Special Events. It was in Los Angeles that Ortiz landed a job in broadcasting while still working in the social service arena.

Ortiz has the distinction of being the first Mexican American in the U.S. to host an English-language talk show on a commercial radio station. The award-winning broadcaster began his media career at KABC TALK RADIO 79 AM in 1971, then worked as a talk show host and news reporter for several other Los Angeles stations, including KLOS-FM, KNXT-TV (now KCBS-TV), KPCC-AM, KPZE-AM, and KPFK-FM (Pacific Radio Network), where he served at its Chief News Reporter. For the last 12 years, he has served as president of Joe Ortiz & Associates, a full service public relations company in the San Fernando Valley, focusing on promoting and raising funds for numerous non-profit and community-based organizations. He has served on numerous professional and community-based organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, Manny Mota International Youth Foundation and the Latin Business Association.

"Joe's vast knowledge and years of experience at working on the problems facing the poor and indigent, along with his strong media skills, will help us (Catholic Charities) to bring greater focus to our mission, and it will also help with our urgent call to secure more financial support to assist those in greatest need," said Cahill.

Ortiz, who has dedicated the majority of his professional career in the social services and media arenas, stated he was excited about being able to use his experience and vast media and fundraising network to enhance Catholic Charities' existing programs, and to develop the resources to launch other needed programs as well. Ortiz said he believes the economic conditions of poor and indigent people in the Inland Empire are becoming worse, and that securing resources is becoming even more difficult. But, Ortiz added he is looking forward to 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."
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 multi-million dollar regional center at the airport for FAA-required training for aircraft-related fires and rescues.
- Education of a burgeoning Inland Empire Hispanic News

SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT'S CHANCELLOR

Dr. Averill said, "I think I can contribute to getting the district where it wants to go from here."

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 Latinos. 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.
Do You Use Energy Wisely?

Want to discover ways to help reduce your energy consumption and save money? Then join Riverside Public Utilities’ ENERGY SAVER program.

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To find out more about RPU’s ENERGY SAVER program, call us at 826-5485.

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