**14,000 Teachers Needed in California**

Individuals holding a bachelor's degree may qualify by taking the CBEST test. A Teacher Job Fair is set for March 22 at A.B. Miller H.S. in Fontana.

If you have ever thought of changing careers and found that teaching your young children be an attractive idea, now is the time to act. California schools will be hiring approximately 14,000 new teachers for new classrooms. This mandate is in response to new legislation to reduce the classroom size to 20 students in kindergarten to third grade in every elementary school.

Individuals holding a bachelor's degree in any subject and have passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) may qualify for a teaching position in the school systems. In the past, there has been a shortage of Hispanic teachers as a result of the expanding Hispanic student population existing in the California classrooms. The downsizing of students per teacher ratio has exacerbated the shortage of teachers.

To meet the challenge for Hispanic teachers, school districts are employing persons in provisional teaching positions who currently hold a bachelor's degree and have passed the CBEST test with the stipulation of completing their credential program within a two-year period.

A unique teacher program at Cal-State, San Bernardino is available for persons that have been offered a teaching position and currently do not possess a California teaching credential. The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, in collaboration with the Hispanic Advisory Committee, is conducting a teacher's job fair and registration in CBEST workshops. The job fair will be held at A.B. Miller High School, 6821 Oleander Avenue, Fontana, on March 22, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Persons interested in additional information may contact Martin Valdez at (909) 387-4230.

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**Hispanic Reception Committee Will Hold Reception for O. Ricardo Pimentel, San Bernardino County Sun, Executive Editor**

The Hispanic Reception Committee is hosting a welcoming reception for the newly appointed Executive Editor of the San Bernardino County Sun newspaper, O. Ricardo Pimentel.

The reception will be held on Thursday, February 27, 1997, at the Arrowhead Central Credit Union, 421 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Pimentel was born and attended local schools and San Diego State University and Cal-State, Fresno. He worked in various newspapers throughout the country and covered the Washington scene for the McClatchy newspaper chain.

The reception, which will include a light buffet and drinks, is being sponsored by numerous area corporations and non-profit organizations.

Persons wishing to attend the reception are requested to RSVP at (909) 882-3094 or (909) 381-6259 by February 24, 1997.

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**Dr. King, Jr. Monument Visionaries Hold Annual Dinner**

Robert Nava, Outstanding Riverside Community Activist & Educator, honored as Martin Luther King Visionary

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Monument Visionaries held its Fifth Annual Dinner at the Raincross Square Convention Center, Riverside, in January, 1996 to commemorate the late Dr. King Jr., his ideals and vision.

The vision of Dr. King is epitomized by City of Riverside Councilperson, Ameal Moore:

A great humanitarian, a Moses for his people, a dreamer that stirred the spirit of humankind. He was an advocate and promoter of equal opportunity; a promoter of brotherhood among all races and religions; ... "Equality and justice are his legacy; courage, love and compassion his memory. He made the nation look at itself and resolved to continue the fight."

As in previous years, the MLKMOV Committee selected individuals in the community who most significantly exemplifies the ideals of the late Dr. King Jr.

Robert Nava, an outstanding community activist and educator, was one of the candidates selected by the MLKMOV Banquet Committee.

According to the MLKMOV's resolution, "Robert Nava shares the dreams of Dr. King Jr. for human justice and equality for all ethnic groups. He puts this vision into action by directing his talents and energy toward working with schools, organizations and community groups, such as the Human Relations Commission."

"In this capacity, he worked toward human dignity by taking up issues, such as immigrant rights, equality and educational opportunity for people of color and women's rights. He has also taken on the role of mediator and turned negative situations into positive experiences."

Nava was appointed UCR's Director of governmental and Community relations in 1989. In this capacity, he serves as the university's liaison with elected officials at the local, state and federal levels.

He is an Adjunct Professor in Chico Studies at Cal-State, Fullerton since 1985 and was an Educational Fellow with institute on Educational Leadership, Washington, D.C.

Nava was elected to the Riverside Unified School District board of Education in 1990 and in 1994, was voted president of the board.

His affiliations include: University/Canyon Crest Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of commerce, Riverside Chamber of Commerce, Riverside Relations Commission, University relations and Development, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, California School Board Association-Hispanic Caucus Conference (co-chair 1992, chair 1993) and Council for the Support and Advancement of Education.

The purpose of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Monument Visionaries, according to its directors, is to raise funds to erect, in the City of Riverside, a lasting monument to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Hi!

days old I had a very risky open heart surgery. When I was six months old, I had a very risky open heart surgery. This allowed me to survive, but it didn't solve my problem. My heart continued to be very sick and I spent a long time at the hospital. Three times I was very close to death. Only then was I 21/2 months old could I go home and meet my sister Claudia for the first time. But in December my heart continued to be sick. I was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. I was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. The child was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. The child was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. The child was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. The child was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. The child was taken to a hospital in Europe for a baby of my size. It was a long way. I have been waiting for a new heart for five years. I hope you can help me and also help inform the public of how important organ donation is for babies like me.

You may contact my parents, Carlo and Paola Leopardi, by calling the Community Relations office at Loma Linda University Medical Center, (909) 824-4419. Forget me not! Sergio

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Redlands & The Great Drain Robbery

By Leonard A. Goymerac

The latest buzz word among Southern Californian’s is the word “Car-jacking.” Most likely car-jacking stemmed from the word “Hijacking,” which implied stopping and robbing cross country hi-way trucks. Now there is another one, it’s called “Tax-jacking.”

The Tax-Jacking has been going on right under everyone’s nose by the so called “Sacramento Boys.” The state capitol gang has been cleverly siphoning off tax money’s from local tax payers by the millions. This clever heist of your tax money and slick political maneuvering by the Sacramento gang has been going on since 1988.

Perhaps it should be called the “Great Drain Robbery.” It was during the early eighties when the State began legislation which eliminated certain tax money’s, a certain share of which, used to be returned to California cities.

Because of your property taxes, here’s some of the loot the gang has taken away from you. Your city’s fair share of liquor licenses, highway carriers uniform business license, cigarette tax subventions, trailer coach license fees, mobile home fees and most of your local vehicle and traffic fines.

By 1991-92 Redlands was suffering from combined loss of these money’s and a sagging economy. The city suffers from building fees, pet tax fees, planning fees and a zilch gain in sales taxes hit hard.

All California cities felt the impact. The City of Redlands reacted with a cut in programs and services. The tax squeeze eliminated 28 city employees.

In the following year, the City of Redlands reduced its permanent work force by 6% and a hiring freeze was in effect for the past three years. The ballot measure has been modified to let the city’s income from building fees, pet tax fees, planning fees and a zilch gain in sales taxes hit hard.

What happened? Redlands was forced to eliminate another 19 permanent positions. By now, your city had exhausted all of its cash reserves and one time revenues.

It’s no joke. The Sacramento “squeezed” its own citizens of their property taxes. By 1993-94 the big Drain Robbery saw Redlands suffer a gap of 10% between what it takes in, and your city has to spend.

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Professional Profile

Dr. Jeanette Peña opens chiropractic practice office in San Bernardino

Dr. Jeanette Peña is a warm and energetic individual and makes you feel very much at home in her new chiropractic office located at 1361 E. Highland Avenue, San Bernardino.

The daughter of Dr. Luis and Mrs. Kathleen Sushi Marquez, Dr. Peña was born in Tachikawa Air Force Base, where her father was chaplain assistant. Her family’s roots are in San Bernardino where the Marquez family owned the Anita’s Mexican Foods, Inc., until it was sold, and the Grandview Tennis Club and Spa.

Dr. Peña attended St. Adelaide’s Elementary, Aquinas High School, San Bernardino Valley College, receiving an AA in Liberal Arts, Cal-State, San Bernardino, Loma Linda University, La Sierra Campus and Los Angeles College of Chiropractic, where she received her Doctorate in Chiropractic in April, 1994.

She married her husband, Homero Peña, in April, 1992. They are the parents of sons, Christien, 4, and Sean, 1.

Dr. Peña attended college at La Sierra and worked as manager at the tennis club and helped families in planning playtime and creating an atmosphere of fun and entertainment. She also worked at the YMCA, teaching ballet, jazz, tap and gymnastics.

Working in her father’s office as assistant, she witnessed many people with back pain, migraine headaches, neck pains and others being brought in by ambulances, become well through chiropractic care.

Her practice began in 1994 as associate, moving to Santa Barbara due to her husband’s transfer, however, returning in 1995 to San Bernardino and continuing as an associate. In December, 1996, Dr. Peña decided to open her own chiropractic business.

“My family and friends and patients have been very supportive in the opening of my new office. I am dedicated to helping others through chiropractic education and care.

“I have always considered giving back to my community of utmost importance. It is also important to share with the youth an attitude of service and seeing them into wellness at my new office.”

Dr. Peña’s telephone number is (909) 883-1196.

Chancellors Organization Elects New Board

Chancellors Organization board members (pictured from left to right) Bob Zermeno, Treasurer, Edward Castaneda, Sergeant at Arms, Arthur Blanco, President, Billy Fuerte, Vice-President, and Arthur Vargas, Secretary.

The Chancellors Organization recently held elections of its board of directors. Arthur Blanco was re-elected as president of the organization as were Billy Fuerte, vice-president, Art Vargas, secretary, and Bob Zermeno, treasurer. Ed Castaneda was newly elected to the post of sergeant at arms.

The Chancellors Organization is dedicated to serving the community’s Latino youth and has awarded annual scholarships to San Bernardino, Colton, Pacific, Cajon and San Gorgonio High Schools for the past three years. They have also funded individual and team athletic sponsorships and other worthwhile community projects.

The group is hosting a gambler’s bus to Laughlin, Nevada on Saturday, February 8th and will begin serving his term immediately.

Colton School District Appoints Frank A. Ibarra

The Colton Joint Unified School District Board of Education appointed Frank A. Ibarra as its newest member during a meeting on February 5.

Ibarra, a department chairman with the San Bernardino City Unified School District’s Adult School, replaces trustee Karl Gaytan, who was elected mayor of the City of Colton in November. He will serve until the next scheduled Board of Education election in November 1997.

“It is important for us as Colton citizens to provide a quality educational program for our children. It is equally important to guide and support our educational system, to work together as a team, to assist our students and children to achieve their goals and give them the best opportunity for the future,” Ibarra said.

Board members had the choice of making an appointment or holding a special election to fill the vacancy. The cost of an election, which could have been as high as $70,000 was one of the deciding factors in appointing a member.

Ibarra works in the San Bernardino Adult School’s department of Mental Health Mentally Ill Homeless program and serves as the Adult Special Education Department chairman. He has worked for the adult school since 1985.

¡AVISO LA COMMUNIDAD REDLANDS!

I support Measure (1), because:

• Recreational facilities must grow with the community.

• In Redlands, there are over 5,475 youths in organized sports programs. Another 1,346 youngsters are in indoor recreational programs.

• Youth recreation programs mean less juvenile crime.

• Recreation means healthier children. MEASURE (1) Will Provide funds for:

Field Maintenance & Lighting - $150,000 per year.
New Field Development - $150,000 per year.
Youth Sports Programs - $25,000 per year
* Measure (1) is not a new tax. It restores the one we have had for the past three years. The revised measure now tells you exactly where your tax dollars will be spent.

VOTE EL PROXIMO 4 DE MARZO

VOTE ‘YES’ ON MEASURE

Citizens For Our Town Say: KEEP AN EYE ON REDLANDS PRESERVE COMMUNITY VALUES Renew Our Utility Tax on March 4th
**France Awards France Invasion Medal to Two Redlands Residents**

Julio Martinez, VFW Service Officer, (left) presenting France's Normandy Invasion Medal to Max Martinez (center) while Cheto Gomez, observes the ceremony. Omez had previously received the Normandy Invasion Medal.

After fifty three years, the Government of France has awarded the prestigious Normandy, France Invasion Medal to two Redlands residents. Aniseto (Cheto) Gomez was presented the award on November 11, 1996, at the Eternal Flame War Monument. Gomez was wounded by shrapnel in his left shoulder on the first day of the invasion on June 4, 1944, which he still carries to the present time.

Maximino (Max) Martinez was recently presented the award in a brief ceremony at the awardee's residence. Martinez participated in the first day of the invasion while serving with a Chemical Warfare Battalion.

**Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Holds Installation Dinner Dance & Awards**

Pictured above are newly installed officers of the Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Pictured (r to l) Richard Sandoval, president, Roberto Barron-Lopez, immediate past president, Marion Ruiz, vice-president, Juan Santos, treasurer, Beverly Rubio, secretary, Ramon Alvarez, Mike Vonada, Mike Pacheco, Minerva Saldana and Frank Guzman, directors. Not in picture, Jesse Vargas, director.

The Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce held its installation dinner-dance in January and presented awards to outstanding community persons. The Josie Lozano Memorial Award was presented to Marian Luna, owner of MarLin Printing and community activist (see profile on Luna below). Andrez (Andy) Soto was presented the Presidential Emeritus Award for his long years of dedication to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and community. New Officer for the business group is Richard Sandoval, RDS Consultants, president; Marion Ruiz, vice-president of DeAnza National Bank, vice-president, Juan Santos, assistant vice-president of Inland Empire National Bank, treasurer, Beverly Rubio, administrative assistant to Mayor Ron Loveridge, secretary and Roberto Barron-Lopez, RBL & Associates, immediate past president, who received an Assembly Resolution from Assemblyman Rod Pacheco.

Board of directors are Frank Gazman, Jesse Vargas, Mike Pacheco, Minerva Saldana, Koltip Lim and Ramon Alvarez.

Outstanding community service was presented to former Riverside County Supervisor Kay Ceniceros, who retired after 16 years. Business of the Year—Action Printing, Corporate partner of the Year—Goodwill Ambulance Service and Presidential Award, Ruiz, Saldana and Pekarek.

The Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was organized by Solo in 1979 with 22 charter members. Since its inception, the business group has actively participated in numerous activities with other civic organizations in the City of Riverside.

Marion Luna presented with Josie Lozano Memorial Award by Riverside Hispanic Chamber

Businesswoman and community activist Marion E. Luna was presented the prestigious Josie Lozano Memorial Award at the recent Annual Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Installation.

The Award is presented annually by the Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to a Riverside area Hispanic woman who exemplified the ideals and accomplishments portrayed by the late Josie Lozano, a local activist and role model for Hispanic women. Luna, married to Lino Luna, is the daughter of Tony and Rosey Esquivel, well-known couple actively involved in community affairs.

Luna attended local schools, graduating from Riverside Community College, attended the University of California, Riverside and the University of southern California.

Owner of MarLin Printing, Luna has held administrative positions with the County Office on Aging as program director and nutrition manager; youth counselor for SER Jobs for Progress; administrative assistant for Chicano Studies Program at UCR; and the US Forest Fire Laboratory. Among numerous key awards, Luna received the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Monument Visionaries Award in 1996.

Luna was former member of the Arlanza/LaSierra Redevelopment Project, founding member of the Riverside Redevelopment Program Task Force, Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Community Relations Commission, Centro de Niños and Riverside Design Review Board.

Pictured above is Marion Luna, City of Riverside community activist, posing after receiving the prestigious Josie Lozano Memorial Award at the Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Annual Officers Installation Dinner Dance.
The focus of this conference was prevention and detection of heart disease and stroke among Latinos. Health education workshops included Nutrition - how to cook with less lard and salt; Exercise - including dancing; Diabetes; Cholesterol, Blood Pressure; Tobacco Use, Heart Disease and Stroke Risk Factors; and Tests Your Doctor May Request if You Have Heart Problems. Information was presented by physicians, nurses, and health educators in Spanish and English, with an emphasis on Spanish.

Victor Valley Community Hospital was the major sponsor donating money, medical personnel and equipment. Of particular interest, was the machine bought by Victor Valley Community Hospital to test blood flow through the carotid artery. This is an expensive diagnostic test that aids in the detection of heart disease and stroke.

In addition, many local businesses sponsored money, food and time to make this event possible: KIX106 FM Radio, San Bernardino County T.U.R.N. Project, Domingo's Restaurant, Faust Printing, H. Olsen Distributing Company, Molina Medical Center, Arrowhead Credit Union, Richie's Diner, Casa Mexico, IEHP, La Casita Restaurant, Radio Mexico, Casa Blanca Realty, Cajon Investments, Victorville Fire Department Explorers Program and Bear Valley Rental.

Another unique aspect of this conference will be the tracking and follow-up with some of the participants. One component missing from many health fairs or conferences where screenings are provided is what happens to people after they leave the event. Do they make necessary life-style changes, do they go to a health care provider if screenings found them to be at risk? Currently, members of the conference planning committee are working with representatives from Loma Linda University in the development of a simplified research methodology to conduct follow-up with a statistically significant number of conference participants. Participants will be contacted and followed for a year and results presented during next year's conference.

The Josie Lozano Memorial Award

The Josie Lozano Memorial Award was named after Mrs. Josephine Lozano, a longtime Riverside resident and recognized as a pioneer in the struggle for civil rights for Hispanics from the early 1930's, when she started working to desegregate public restrooms in Riverside! Actively involved in politics, Mrs. Lozano encouraged Hispanic women to register and vote after World War II. She was involved in Democratic politics, being a member of the County Central Democratic Committee, MAPA and many other local organizations, and actively working in political campaigns, including John Kennedy, Pat and Jerry Brown, George Brown, Walter Ingalls, John Tunney, Robert Presley and John Soto.

During the 1950's, Mrs. Lozano worked for the Riverside Community Settlement House and using her own money, traveled to Washington during the Johnson administration to lobby for poverty funds for Riverside. Mrs. Lozano was educated at Longfellow Elementary, University Junior High and Poly High schools. She died in April, 1983 at the age of 70.

In 1997, Rogers LaRue, Jose Cervantes and Alan Seasman traveled to Washington during the Clinton administration to lobby for poverty funds for Riverside. Mrs. Lozano was educated at Longfellow Elementary, University Junior High and Poly High schools. She died in April, 1983 at the age of 70.

Since 1987, the Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has annually presented the Josie Lozano Memorial Award to a Hispanic woman who emulates the accomplishments of Josephine Lozano.

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COUNTY RECEIVES FUNDS FOR PARENTING/MENTORING PROGRAM

SACRAMENTO — February 13, 1997 — Assemblyman Joe Baca announced that the San Bernardino County Probation Department has received a grant of $45,180 to conduct the Young Men as Fathers Parenting/Mentoring Program in its juvenile facilities and the Justice Youth Center at Norton AFB.

The grant, which is part of $2.7 million awarded to 26 counties, funds a program based on a model developed by the California Youth Authority. It focuses on the premises that:

• child mistreatment is closely linked to delinquency and can be prevented;
• both parents are needed for the proper upbringing of a child;
• child mistreatment is closely linked to domestic violence, especially involving children; and
• an involved father is good for self-esteem and can be a motivating factor for a successful family life.

The program model recognizes that most young fathers lack basic parenting education and skills, have inadequate role models, and need real-life experiences to learn how to build relationships with their families. The program has three elements to meet these challenges:

• classroom parenting instruction;
• the use of mentors to be parental role models; and
• special family activities to build relationships among family members.

Statewide, roughly 5,000 are expected to participate in the program which will bring the state, county probation offices, and county offices of education together in a partnership to meet the needs of this at-risk population.

"We need to do whatever we can to break the cycle of domestic violence, especially involving children," Assemblyman Baca said. "The other very important component of this program is that it teaches our young men to take responsibility, while assisting them with practical information about parenting. Mentors ate also a key to making this whole program work. People need the support of role models who have real-life experiences."

Gas Assistance Fund Helps

More than $525,000 is now available to help qualifying limited income Gas Company customers pay their winter gas bills, the utility announced today.

Gas Company customers donated over $275,000 and the utility’s shareholders contributed an additional $250,000 to this year’s gas Assistance Fund, which is administered by the United Way. The money is available — up to $100 per household — until March 31, 1997, or until the funds run out.

"Our customers have long been known for their generosity and support to those who need it. This year is no exception," says Judi Battey, district manager of residential services for The Gas Company. "Higher winter gas bills often are a concern to our customers. We’re glad to see so many of our customers care and want to help others.

Applications will be taken at local United Way agencies. Proof of household income, proper identification such as a driver’s license or California I.D. card, and your gas bill must be presented at time of application.

Last year, more than 5,312 needy households were assisted through the fund. SoCalGas’ shareholders have given approximately $3 million in contributions to the Gas Assistance Fund since it was established in 1982.

Counties in the Inland Empire responded strongly to this year’s fund, with total donations amounting to over $276,000 and the utility’s shareholders contributing an additional $280,000. The Gas Company will spend 100% of the allocated funds to help families in need.

Limited Income Customers

The program will benefit those households with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. Families must also provide proper identification, such as a driver’s license or California I.D. card, and present their gas bill at the time of application. Limited Income Customers should call (909) 388-0738.

The Gas Company, a subsidiary of Southern California Gas Company, is the state’s largest natural gas utility, serving all or parts of 49 counties. The Gas Company is a unit of Sempra Energy (SEM), a diversified energy services company.

Gas Assistance Fund Helped

Gas Assistance Fund helps those families in need pay their winter gas bills. Families with limited income can apply for assistance by calling (909) 388-0738.

San Bernardino, CA

Gas Assistance Fund

Gas Assistance Fund helps those families in need pay their winter gas bills. Families with limited income can apply for assistance by calling (909) 388-0738.

For more information, contact Larry Berenato, SBCSS communications specialist, at (909) 387-3103.
Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 for the following:

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<th>Bid No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bidder's Conference</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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<td>9697-1</td>
<td>Pre-Quality Providers of Condensed Gas, Air Pollutant</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
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<td>9697-2</td>
<td>Pre-Quality Providers of Air Pollutant Gas</td>
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<td>9697-3</td>
<td>Air Quality Measurement Equipment, Software, and Services</td>
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<td>9697-4</td>
<td>Service Contracting Testing</td>
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<td>9697-6</td>
<td>Assistance Under SCAQMD Program (LAP)</td>
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<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
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APPLICANTS UNDER SCAQMD PROGRAM (LAP) ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL NO LATER THAN MARCH 11, 1997. CONTACT TON PANKINS AT (909) 396-3529 FOR APPLICATIONS FOR LAP APPROVAL.

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:**

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<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9697-3</td>
<td>Air Quality Measurement Equipment, Software, and Services</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
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<tr>
<td>9697-4</td>
<td>Service Contracting Testing</td>
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<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
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<tr>
<td>9697-5</td>
<td>Service Contracting Testing</td>
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<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
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<tr>
<td>9697-6</td>
<td>Assistance Under SCAQMD Program (LAP)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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APPLICANTS UNDER SCAQMD PROGRAM (LAP) ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL NO LATER THAN MARCH 11, 1997. CONTACT TON PANKINS AT (909) 396-3529 FOR APPLICATIONS FOR LAP APPROVAL.

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:**

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 for the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bid No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bidder's Conference</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9697-1</td>
<td>Pre-Quality Providers of Condensed Gas, Air Pollutant</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9697-2</td>
<td>Pre-Quality Providers of Air Pollutant Gas</td>
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<td>03/21/97 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda De La O (909) 396-2267</td>
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Mexico Repays U.S. Loan Early

The Ministry of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico has announced that the Federal Government will repay in the coming weeks US$3.5 billion to the U.S. Treasury. With this early payment, Mexico will have canceled the total amount of the remaining balance with the U.S. Treasury.

The original financial support package amounted to US$2 billion, of which US$12.5 billion was outstanding to Mexico at its highest level in July 1995. By January 1996, Mexico has already repaid US$2 billion of short-term liabilities, leaving US$10.5 billion in outstanding support. In August 1996, an early payment of US$7 billion was made, leaving the outstanding balance of US$3.5 billion.

Additionally, the Central Bank has informed that it will pay ahead of schedule US$1.5 billion of the International Monetary Fund.

It is important to point out that neither of these payments will be financed from the international reserves of the Central Bank, and the repayment to the IMF will increase net international assets by US$1.5 billion. Due to the refinancing nature of this transaction, the new external debt balance of the public sector will remain the same.

Sources of funds:

1. The funding for the prepayment to the U.S. Treasury (US$3.5 billion) and the IMF (US$1.5 billion) comes from the following transactions:
   - US$1 billion from the recent issuance of a 10-year Dollar global bond.
   - US$1 billion from a 8-year Deutsche Mark denominated issuance.
   - US$650 million from a 6-year Yen denominated issuance.
   - US$575 million from the collateral released from Brady Bonds which were recently canceled.
   - US$500 million from the issuances under the MTN program of the Federal Government.
   - US$330 million from a 5-year Italian Lira denominated issuance.
   - US$395 million from other transactions issued by the United Mexican States in the international capital markets.

2. The liquidation of the total amount outstanding of the U.S. Treasury emergency support package is a critical transaction for Mexico. This will:
   - Eliminate the refinancing risk of the public debt denominated in foreign currency.
   - Solve the short-term over indebtedness problem.
   - Lengthen and smoothen the maturity profile of Mexico's public debt.

The current refinancing increases the average maturity from 3.33 to 7.68 years.

3. Generate annual savings for the U.S. in excess of US$100 million as a result of the reduction of the cost of the refinanced resources of US$10.5 billion.

This transaction highlights the conclusion of Mexico's short-term external debt refinancing, through which an emergency funding is substituted by market refinancing at lower cost of funding and increasing tenor.

Mexico's refinancing needs for the years 1997-1999 have sharply decreased with this transaction.

Two years ago, the U.S. Treasury financial agreements were signed. Today, the liquidation of the remaining balance of these financings contributes positively to an improving outlook for the Mexican economy, marked by a reduced vulnerability to risks associated to the maturity profile of public external debt.

Bi-Lingual Pictorial of Abraham Lincoln Honors Hispanics

On December 21, 1861, Abraham Lincoln created the Congressional Medal of Honor to recognize the extraordinary acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty by men and women fighting for their country. Since 1864, 38 Hispanic-Americans have received the Medal of Honor.

Particular recognition of the Hispanic Medal of Honor recipients reflects the unique relationship that existed between the administrations of Abraham Lincoln and Benito Juarez of Mexico during the 1860s. A brief historical account in the book details the association of these dedicated leaders and their mutual struggle for national survival.

In memory of the enduring principles embodied by Lincoln and Juarez, the American GI Forum is supporting the American GI Forum Scholarship Foundation, the Hispanic children, funded by proceeds from the book, Abraham Lincoln, The Boy -- The Man/El Niño-El Hombre.

Send a check or money order and of those words comprising the Forum's motto: "Education is our Freedom and Freedom Should be Everybody's Business." It is the hope of all involved in this remarkable project that such efforts as Abraham Lincoln, The Boy -- The Man/El Niño-El Hombre will facilitate an atmosphere of learning, communication and mutual respect among those inspired by the spirit of honor and dignity that marked the relationship of two remarkable presidents from different cultures over a century ago.

A tax deductible $15.00 donation will send a soft cover copy of the book anywhere in the continental United States with a cover letter from the donor. Send a check or money order and the address of the recipient to: American GI Forum of the United States, Office of the National Commander, 11212 Archway Drive Whittier, California 90604.