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LOIS CARSON RECEIVES 2007 LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON HUMAN SERVICES AWARD

As Riverside County’s Executive Director, a position she has held since 1980, Carson is charged with leading local efforts to fight poverty. The CAA focuses on education and wealth building, advocacy, community organizing, and capacity building. Key initiatives and programs include Individual Development Accounts, the Earned Income Tax Credit, Project L.E.A.D. (Linking Education, Advocacy, and Development), pre-apprenticeship workplace mentoring, energy assistance, and disaster preparedness.

Under Carson’s guidance, the agency has taken an aggressive and bold approach to ending poverty in Riverside County in 30 years by adopting a Community Declaration. This document calls for economic opportunity and hope for all in Riverside County, thereby creating “Bliss County”. Riverside County without poverty.

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THE EPITOME OF COMMUNITY ACTIVIST: TOM BURICAGA

Thomas (Tom) Burciaga in the City of Ontario.

“I love this town, and have this inborn trait to want to help others, especially whose who, for whatever reasons, are unable to help themselves, and a commitment to improve our community, giving me a sense of satisfaction making our daily lives better,” Burciaga stated during an interview.

Born in East Los Angeles, the family moved to Ontario in 1961 when Burciaga was five years old. He attended Euclid Elementary, De Anza Junior High School and Ontario High School.

Along the way, during the growing up years, Burciaga hung out with the wrong crowd.

Continue on page 5

S.B. DEMOCRATIC LUNCHEON CLUB

San Bernardino Democratic Luncheon Club of San Bernardino meets at noon on Fridays at Democratic Headquarters, 156 Carousel Mall (near the central glass elevator-lower level). Questions regarding the Democratic Club call Nancy White at (909) 793-6229. Visitors welcomed. Following is a schedule of speakers:

September 7 Daniel Arellano, Director, English Learner Programs, San Bernardino City School District.

September 14 Bill Hedrick, Teacher, School Board Member, 64th Congressional Candidate, Overview of campaign issues.

September 21 Norma Torres, Mayor, City of Pomona

View www.sbdems.com for information.
DR. JAMES H. ERICKSON JOINS THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AS PRESIDENT AND CEO

San Bernardino County and now has $54 million dollars in assets to provide scholarships, grants and other services to non-profit organizations across the two county areas.

Erickson is an Emeritus Vice Chancellor of the University of California, having served 14 years as the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement at UC Riverside and four years as Vice Chancellor at UC Merced prior to his retirement four years ago. For the past four years he has been advising university presidents on fund raising and board development. A former Fulbright fellow, he has also advised universities throughout Europe for the British Council and CASE Europe. Active in civic affairs in the two counties, Erickson recently received the City Spirit Award from the City of Riverside for leading the effort to generate over two million dollars locally for victims of the Tsunami and Katrina disasters. He has been named Citizen of the Year in both Riverside and Peoria, Illinois and received the Inland Empire Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts. He was selected on of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in Illinois and has served as President of the Urban League in two states. He earned his Doctor of Education degree from Indiana University, and he and his wife, Jan, have two sons.

"I am honored to accept this position, for The Community Foundation does so much to support worthy causes and serve deserving people and organizations in our remarkable two county area. I am committed to continue the outstanding momentum of Sheryl Alexander and the Staff and Board here at The Community Foundation," Erickson stated.

Yzaguirre earns Smithsonian Latino Center Legacy Award

PHOENIX - Raul Yzaguirre, Arizona State University Presidential Professor of Practice and Director of the ASU Center for Community Development and Civil Rights in the College of Public Programs, will be honored Sept. 5 with a Lifetime Achievement Award as part of the first-ever Smithsonian Latino Center Legacy Awards Ceremony.

The Legacy Awards and dinner will be presented at Smithsonian Con Sabor, a black-tie fundraising gala for nearly 1,000 national Latino community leaders from all sectors; held at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. as part of the Latino Center’s 10th anniversary celebration.

Yzaguirre is being recognized for his 30 years as President and CEO of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the largest constituency-based national Hispanic organization and a leading Hispanic "think tank" in Washington, D.C., and for his role as founder and director of the ASU Center for Community Development and Civil Rights. His legacy includes developing NCLR from a regional advocacy group with 17 affiliates into a national organization of more than 300 affiliates serving 41 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

"Raul Yzaguirre’s influence on our nation is legendary. He is a National treasure. We congratulate him on this rare honor, and thank him for choosing ASU to continue his career,” said Debra Friedman, dean of the ASU College of Public Programs. “Our Center for Community Development and Civil Rights’ educational, asset-building and community development projects are thriving under his leadership.”

Throughout his life, Yzaguirre has fought for recognition of Latinos in all sectors of American society, particularly entertainment and culture. At the Smithsonian Institution, he chaired a task force calling for greater representation of Latinos in exhibitions, programs, collections and the Smithsonian’s work force. The task force eventually led to the establishment of the Smithsonian Latino Center in 1997. Yzaguirre continues to be involved with various Hispanic organizations, serving on the Boards of the Hispanic Heritage Foundation and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute to name a few.

Among his many honors and awards, he was the first Hispanic to receive a Rockefeller Public Service Award from Princeton University and also received the Distinguished Order of the Aztec Eagle in 1993, the highest honor awarded by the Governor of Mexico to citizens of another country. The Smithsonian Latino Center’s 2007 Legacy Awards will also recognize a number of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans making significant contributions to the arts, sciences and humanities in the United States. U.S. Senators Mel Martinez and Ken Salazar will receive special recognition for demonstrating political leadership in advancing Latino culture and heritage.

Mrs. Columbia Bush, former First Lady of Florida, is the event’s Gala Chair and Arizona State University President Frank Anderson is Honorary Chair. President Felipe Calderón and First Lady Margarita Zavala of Mexico have been invited to participate as honorary hosts.

In addition to Yzaguirre, 2007 Legacy Award honorees include:

Design: Enrique Norten and David Rodriguez; Visual Arts: Graciela Iturbide and Carmen Lomas Garza; Film: Arturo Ripstein and Moctesuma Esparza; Music: Los Tigres Del Norte; Arts Advocacy: Guadalupe Rivera Marin and Cheech Marin; Literature: Laura Esquivel and Luis Valder; Humanities: Tomás Ybarra-Frausto and Dana Gioia; and Emerging Talent: Alejandro Monteverde and Eduardo Verastegui

The Smithsonian Latino Center’s 10th anniversary celebration also features the “Mexican Treasures of the Aztec Eagle” exhibit, also launched on Sept. 5. A bilingual online component of the display will be available at http://www.latino.si.edu/exhibits/.

As a founder of the Smithsonian Latino Center, Yzaguirre’s legacy includes ensuring that Latino contributions to arts, sciences and the humanities are highlighted through public programs, scholarly research, museum collections and educational opportunities at the Smithsonian Institution and its affiliated organizations.
Inland Empire Hispanic News
Wednesday, Sept 5, 2007

STUDY FINDS AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND HISPANIC CAREGIVERS FACE GAP IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE KNOWLEDGE

(NAPS) -- A new survey from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America gives important new insight into the attitudes and needs of African-American and Hispanic caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease.

Perhaps most significantly, these caregivers are much more likely than caregivers of other races to mistakenly consider the disease a normal part of aging. The average delay in diagnosis among all caregivers surveyed, in fact, is more than 2.5 years.

"Facing Alzheimer's disease is never easy, but getting a diagnosis and taking advantage of support services are crucial steps to treating and managing the disease," said Eric J. Hall, Chief Executive Officer, Alzheimer's Foundation of America. "We encourage everyone touched by Alzheimer's disease to reach out for assistance—help is out there."

"Alzheimer's disease is a devastating illness that is by no means a normal part of aging."

ARMC TO PROVIDE FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS DURING FIFTH ANNUAL HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR

The Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, 400 North Pepper Avenue, Colton, will hold its free 5th annual health and safety fair for children and adults on September 22, 2007, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The fair will include: Extensive free health screenings for children and adults of all ages • Doctor consultations for discussions about improving your health and your child's health (bringing a child's immunization records is advisable for a pediatric review) • A free teddy bear for the first 500 kids who take advantage of the health screening • Free safety demonstrations and free snowboarding lessons • Raffle prizes and free refreshment • A bounce house and other activities for the kids

New health screenings will also include examinations for hearing, vision, prostate, and oral cancer. In addition, fire safety demonstrations, screening for dental, blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, height and weight, body fat analysis and body mass index, fitness test, breast and skin cancer and asthma. ARMC pharmacists will also be available to answer questions about medications, and the Medical Center's registered dieticians will provide important information about healthy nutrition.


The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is continuously recruiting for qualified men and women seeking a challenging career in Law Enforcement.

The next Deputy Sheriff Trainee written exam is scheduled for:
Test Date: September 11, 2007
Test Time: 8:00 a.m.
Test Location: 175 West 5th Street-San Bernardino-Ca.

We are also hiring for the following positions:
Sheriff's Communications Dispatcher/Applications processed continuously
Sheriff's Facilities Maintenance Mechanic/Applications processed continuously
Sheriff's Cook/Applications processed continuously
Sheriff's Registered Nurse Corrections/Applications processed continuously
Sheriff's Nurse Supervisor/Applications processed continuously

The survey also shed light on the following:

Support Groups
African-American and Hispanic caregivers rely heavily on support groups, yet only around half of African-American respondents and one-third of Hispanic respondents said they felt the support groups they were able to access were appropriate to their specific religious or ethnic background. A majority of caregivers—African Americans in particular—wished they had more emotional support from friends and family as well as knowledge and direction from healthcare professionals.

Religion and Spirituality
In addition to support groups, religion and spirituality play a vital role in the lives of these caregivers. While respondents who are religious are more likely to turn to religious leaders for support, nearly two-thirds of non-religious respondents said that their spiritual beliefs have a significant impact on their healthcare decisions. Interestingly, even survey respondents who declared themselves non-religious felt more religious along the caregiving journey.

Assisted Living Facilities
Despite the important role assisted living facilities and nursing homes play in caring for people with Alzheimer's disease, the survey revealed that many African-American and Hispanic care givers don't consider them an option. Those caregivers who would not place their loved one in a facility felt that it is their responsibility to take care of their loved one or said doing so would make them feel guilty.

Treatment
Medications exist that can treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. The survey showed, however, that the majority of caregivers surveyed were unaware of combination therapy, a type of treatment that combines medication from the two classes of Alzheimer's drugs currently approved by the FDA.

About Alzheimer's Disease
Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disease is a progressive brain disorder leading to a loss of memory and ability to learn, reason, make judgments, communicate, and carry out daily activities.

Alzheimer's disease currently strikes approximately 5.1 million Americans, with an estimated one in eight persons over age 65 and nearly half of those 85 or older suffering from the disease. In fact, published reports project that this number could more than triple to over 16 million people in the United States by 2050.

Help Is Out There
For more information, call (toll-free) 866-AFA-8484 or visit www.alzfdn.org. This survey was conducted for the Alzheimer's Foundation of America and sponsored by Forest Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Congressman Joe Baca, left, and NeighborhoodWorks@America launched the Foreclosure Prevention Initiative attended by housing industry leaders and community activists. Baca also presented a check for $207,033 annual federal congressional appropriation to the housing agency for the Inland Empire region. Baca, above, is testing the 24-hour hotline that will be available to homeowners with subprime mortgages who foresee problems leading to local foreclosures in the area. The hotline will allow financial and planning services and resources to help homeowners in their home payments. Right, Michael Trujillo, local congressional office legislative and public affairs representative, photo courtesy of Congressman Baca’s office.

SAN BERNARDINO, CA - Congressman Joe Baca (D-43) and NeighborhoodWorks@America launched the Foreclosure Prevention Initiative before an audience of local housing industry leaders and community activists. Baca presented a check for $207,033 to NeighborWorks® America, the annual federal congressional appropriation for the Inland Empire region. NeighborWorks® America was established in 1978 to increase the capacity of local community-based housing organizations. Neighborhood Housing Services for the Inland Empire (NHSIE), an affiliate of NeighborWorks®, was founded in 1981 by three WWII veterans to make homeownership available to minorities and low-income residents in San Bernardino; has grown to become a comprehensive not-for-profit community-based housing organization serving residents throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Congressman Baca also announced a new 24-hour hotline for homeowners who foresee problems leading up to a foreclosure of their homes. Homeowners can call 1-888-995-HOPE to receive financial counseling, information on financial planning and resources, like the bridge loan program which helps homeowners who are behind in their payments. Baca stated, "The services of NeighborWorks® America are crucial to bringing about greater and necessary awareness among local residents who find themselves in these difficult financial times."

The Inland Empire has the highest rate of foreclosure filings in the nation among large metro areas, and comprised the hardest hit area in California through the first half of 2007. In San Bernardino County alone there were 19,185 foreclosure filings the first half of 2007, representing a staggering 245% increase from the previous year. Riverside County filings for the first half of 2007 numbered 22,176, showing an almost as dramatic increase of 222% from the previous year. Overall, there is one foreclosure filing for every 33 households in the Inland Empire.

NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Second Floor, San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, California, for the purpose of considering amendments to the County's 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan and 2007-08 Action Plan, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of HUD's regulations, 24 CFR Part 570, et seq., and will be conducted in a public hearing format.

PROPOSED CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS

The following proposed amendments would substantially change the current Action Plan, as approved by HUD for the period July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008. These amendments include changes to the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan, as required by HUD, and the 2007-08 Action Plan to reflect these amendments.

For a public hearing on Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., the Board of Supervisors will consider the following proposed amendments to the 2007-08 Action Plan:

1. Re-vote on a previously cancelled CDBG project for the Town of Yucca Valley.
2. Re-vote on a previously cancelled CDBG project for the City of San Bernardino. The Board has the authority to re-vote on these projects in accordance with the provisions of federal law and regulations.
3. Change the CDBG program as approved funds for the First Supervisorial District to include the Town of Yucca Valley, the City of San Bernardino, and the Town of Redlands. The Board has the authority to change the CDBG program as approved funds for the First Supervisorial District to include additional eligible projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons wishing to present oral testimony, or submit written or email comments on the proposed amendments, are invited to attend the hearing. Written comments should be submitted in writing to the Board of Supervisors, County of San Bernardino, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Second Floor, San Bernardino, California 92408. Written comments should include the name and address of the individual or entity making the submission. Electronic comments may be submitted via email to Board Comments at boardcomments@countyofsanbernardino.ca.gov. Due to time constraints, written comments from individuals or organizations wishing to present oral testimony at the hearing will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. on September 25, 2007.

City of San Bernardino
Department of Community Development and Housing
220 North Renaissance Avenue, Second Floor
San Bernardino, California 92410
(909) 388-0964
Attn: Program and Compliance Section
Growing up in Ontario, we had the angel name Georgia Allen, an Ontario police officer, who had an interest in me, and saw something better for me. She would talk to me, telling me that I had greater things to do, and I should not be involved in gangs. She saved my life.

He went on to get an education: A.A. in Psychology, a B.A. in Business Administration, Certificate in Insurance, Educational Association in Bilingual/Spanish Business Administration, Certificate to do, and I should not be involved in gangs. She saved my life.

Burciaga’s 26 years of professional experiences has included working in the private business sector, educational, health, and rehabilitation facilities, and hospitals and job development.

He is currently a business developer with the First Team Staffing Group, a minority owned business with offices in Fontana, Riverside, Norwalk and Carson.

“This wide array of exposure with various businesses, social and health organizations, and with elected and agency officials has given me added leadership experiences and organizational skills, and an established extensive network,” Burciaga said.

An added asset to his network is a familial relationship with six major families in the region that includes over 500 relatives!

An outgoing person, Burciaga communicates well with longtime associates or a new acquaintance, and practices what he does best: continually extending his resources in helping individuals, groups or organizing activities in the community.

His greatest achievements are involvement in his community:

Ontario Chamber of Commerce as chair of the Latino Business Council; Ontario Nativity Scenes Group founder and director; co-founder and member of the Ontario Leadership Alliance; Esperanza Scholarship Foundation, Brethren of Christ - Church, Abrazo Entrepreneurial Foundation; Chaffey High School-SARB Student Advisory Board; Inland Empire Employer Advisory Council, SBCSS Reading Buddies Program; drug and alcohol rehabilitation instructor; liaison between the City of Ontario and the Hispanic community; and assisting the homeless and underprivileged programs.

Typical projects include the annual Christmas posadas along Euclid Avenue, with nativity scenes created by Rudolf Vargas; Thanksgiving baskets for needy families; raising funds for scholarships, coordinating interrelationship between the city, police, and groups, organizing Fourth of July floats for senior citizens; volunteer drug and alcohol counselor; and a myriad of activities.

Burciaga has been the recipient of congressional and the City of Ontario awards for his service to the community; and letters of appreciation from the State of California and City of Ontario for his involvement with the Hispanic community during the 2000 Census.

He enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with his wife, Clara, and grandchild.

Ontario residents, officials, organizational officers and outsiders know the person to go to when things have to be done. That is why Thomas Burciaga is known as Mr. Ontario.

COOLING SITES FOR SENIORS DURING HOT WEATHER

Seniors can call the Senior and Information and Assistance staff at 1 800 510 2020, and the number will connect the caller to staff in the area of the call. Staff is trained to assist persons with connections to resources within that area.

The phones are active Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Additionally, and available after hours and weekends — is the 211 system, who work with sharing resource information.

Staff will also have this latest listing of neighborhood cool places.

An added link is the Edison site which lists official Cooling Centers: http://www.sce.com/CoolCenters/
Last week's news that the U.S. poverty rate fell to 12.3% in 2006 from 12.6% in the prior year becomes even more noteworthy when you consider that Hispanics led the way.

According to the Census, poverty rates in 2006 were statistically unchanged for whites, blacks and Asians, but decreased to 20.6% from 21.8% among Latinos. The poverty rate among Hispanics is lower today than the poverty rate among blacks (24.3%). Per capita income also increased across the board, by 1.9%, but here, too, Hispanic gains stand out. The per capita income of whites, blacks and Asians, increased by 1.8%, 2.7%, and 8% respectively, while Hispanic incomes rose by 3.1%.

Given the rapid growth of the Hispanic population due to immigration and higher birth rates, this is a welcome trend. And it is a trend.

INLAND EMPIRE TEACHERS RECEIVE $1.5 MILLION BOOST

SAN BERNARDINO, CA - The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a $1.5 million grant to the "Quality Teachers for Quality Students" program at California State University, San Bernardino.

Quality teachers are a credential program for Inland Empire teachers who want to help students still learning or struggling with the English language. The project will focus on the subjects of math, science and literacy development.

Young Suk Hwang, who is the director of the CSUSB Center for Teacher Professional Development and the chair of the university's department of educational psychology and counseling, will use the money to enhance the program this fall.

"This grant will address the shortage of qualified teachers in San Bernardino County by effectively preparing 100 teachers to meet the academic needs of English language learners," Hwang said.

Hwang's team will use the funding to support non-secondary content teachers, develop a virtual mentoring system, and provide leadership structures for mentor teachers. Hwang said this is expected to have an extremely positive effect on 90,000 students in San Bernardino County school districts who have a limited English proficiency.

For more information contact the CSUSB office of public affairs at (909) 537-5007 and visit http://news.csusb.edu

Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to this country and to mankind is to bring up a family.

George Bernard Shaw

Mr. Kenneth M. Young
Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

Joins the community in commemorating

EL DIECISEIS DE SEPTIEMBRE

"Celebrating the strong heritage of our diverse student population bring our communities closer together"

WILMER AMINA CARTER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER,
SIXTY-SECOND DISTRICT

It is my honor to participate in the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, and I hope that you will join me in commemorating the accomplishments and contributions of our Hispanic community through the sharing of their rich culture and history.

DISTRICT OFFICE
335 N. RIVERSIDE AVE.
RIALTO, CA 92376
PHONE: (909) 820-5008
FAX: (909) 820-5098

CAPITOL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249
PHONE: (916) 319-2062
FAX: (916) 319-2162

Pew Hispanic Center show that the Latino poverty rate, which was 22.5% in 2003, has fallen for three straight years. America's fastest-growing ethnic group has been steadily improving its economic lot, notwithstanding lower education levels on average and overrepresentation in low-skill occupations.

Last month, Pew released a study on the wages earned by foreign-born Latinos between 1995 and 2005. Latinos comprise the largest share of foreign-born workers and accounted for 13% of the overall labor force in 2005, up from 6% in 1980. According to Pew, between 1995 and 2005, "The proportion of foreign-born Latino workers in the lowest quintile of the wage distribution decreased to 36% from 42% while many workers moved into the middle quintiles."

The report's author, Rakesh Kochhar, cites higher levels of education and a move from jobs in agriculture to construction and other higher-paying occupations as major factors in Latino upward mobility.

"During this period," writes Mr. Kochhar, "many foreign-born Latinos stepped out of the low-wage workforce and headed toward the middle of the wage distribution."

Some conservatives assert that the U.S. is importing impoverished immigrants from Mexico who are destined to remain at that way. These fears are misplaced. The data show that over time Latinos can and do climb the economic ladder, much as previous immigrant groups have done.

Unfortunately, most of the media decided to minimize or ignore the poverty figures, preferring instead to play up the Census data showing that 47 million Americans lacked health insurance in 2006, up from 44.8 million in 2005. But the ranks of the insured also grew, and most of the uninsured are people who can afford insurance but don't buy it, especially the young, or who qualify for Medicaid and other government programs but are not enrolled.

Many of those caught in between have been priced out of the market by government mandates that drive up costs and limit choice. They're also victims of regulations that have led many employers to stop offering coverage, rather than offer an expensive plan that would force them to lower wages. With the right reforms, they could all have access to affordable private insurance.

We hate to spoil the morose political mood with such contrary optimism, but we have to follow the facts where they lead.

The article was developed from the Pew Hispanic Center
WASHINGTON, DC - While U.S. Census Bureau data on income, poverty and health care released today show some minor improvements, Catholic leaders note that millions of Americans still lack health insurance and are unable to pull themselves out of poverty.

According to the government's conservative figures, 36.5 million American's live in poverty, a figure that has not statistically changed in the last year. The 12.8 million children in poverty and the 20.2 million adults in poverty have not changed either. Despite the successes of SCHIP, 611,000 more children lack health insurance this year.

As America's wealthy prosper, the dignity of human life has been neglected. Catholic social justice leaders worry that lost in these statistics are the real struggles of people unable to afford adequate housing, medicine or health care.

"The fact is that low and middle-income families have not shared in the prosperity that the extremely wealthy have enjoyed," said Kathleen Maas Weigert, the Executive Director of the Center for Social Justice Research, Teaching and Service at Georgetown University and a Catholics in Alliance advisor. "While we applaud the fact that economic numbers have improved, they have not improved enough for the poor and vulnerable among us. Catholic Social Teaching is clear that poverty is a moral scandal; it is also a threat to our democracy and economy. As a society and as individuals, we all need to work towards eliminating it."

Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good calls on all public officials and policy makers to make a renewed commitment to ensuring that the economy is as generous to the poor and middle-class as it has been for the extremely wealthy.

Sen. Gloria Negrete McLeod, (center) poses with Ontario couples, Mr. Lucio E. Sagasta and Mrs. Lucia Lopez Sagasta (at left) and Ruth and Robert Rivera, (right) after receiving Certificates of Recognition for outstanding couples and parents. The two couples were profiled by the Inland Empire Hispanic News as outstanding couples on Mother’s Day (Sagasta family) and Father’s Day (Rivera family). (Mrs. Rivera was unable to attend the ceremony due to illness and was represented by her daughter)

Mrs. Sagasta was recognized as Woman of the Year in 1953 by then-Assembleman Fred Aguilar. The Sagasta parents raised 15 children, who went on to higher education and are employed in various professional fields. The Rivera parents raised seven children, who also acquired higher education and are in professional fields. Photo by IEHN.
Guatemala, a sprawling agricultural and manufacturing center, lay quiet and still on a cold September evening in 1810. But around midnight, a small detachment of royalist soldiers rode out towards the town of Querétaro. There was no moonlight so the Cavalry rode out by torch light. The local villages and ranches that were scattered throughout the countryside lay quiet while the inhabitants rested in peace oblivious to what was about to happen.

A Querétaro grocer named Epiménto Gonzáles stirred from a restless sleep as dogs outside would not stop barking. An Indian servant boy quickly tried to wake Gonzáles, but the calm night was suddenly disrupted by the thundering of horse’s hooves. The grocer quickly went about the house and his adjoining mercado shutting windows and closing doors. He took his servant boy and pushed him through an opening in the roof.

“Run to the Corregidor’s house and tell him the soldiers are coming! Hurry! Hurry!” As soon as the boy disappeared into the darkness, the soldiers had surrounded the place. The captain pounded on the front door threatening to tear it down, but Epiménto and his wife refused to comply. The soldiers broke into the house and began tearing through everything in sight ripping out doors, planks, and breaking many of the grocer’s wares.

Finally in the cellar, the soldiers found a cache of ammunition, muskets, swords and machetes of every size. “Arrest them,” the captain ordered as he glared at Epiménto; the grocer was too terrified to run. He had been caught before he had a chance to do anything. The planned rebellion had been discovered.

Two cloaked riders on horseback made their way quickly up toward the rector hamlet of Dolores. When they reached the church they frantically beat on the door begging the sleeping priest to let them in. The tall lean figure of an aging priest emerged from behind the heavy oak door. After he rubbed his eyes he held his lantern toward the unexpected visitors and he recognized the men as several members of the Querétaro literary circle he had joined months before. It was the Cavalry Lieutenant Juan de Aldama and Captain Ignacio Allende. “We’ve been discovered!” Allende said. “Don González has been arrested,” Aldama added. The priest brought the men into the rectory then he bolted the door.

“Were you followed?” asked the priest. “I don’t think so,” Aldama said as he nervously began wringing his hands. The young lieutenant grieved over the thought of being captured and executed before a firing squad. It was treasonous for a royalist soldier to even think of revolt against the crown. Aldama and Allende’s death warrants had been signed when the soldiers found the weapons, for it wouldn’t take long to torture a confession out of the grocer. The time was not ready for revolt for Captain Aldama, Epiménto had not yet mobilized and trained an army.

But the would-be traitors were not with the priest to confess their sins or beg for sanctuary. The priest had a bold idea. He went out to the bell tower and sounded the bells which rang loudly throughout the village and nearby hamlets. Suddenly torches and candles lit up in every dwelling of Dolores. The inhabitants, mostly poor Indian and mestizo peasants, emerged from their homes and assembled before the church where the priest, Padre Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, stood atop of a large boulder with his torch held high. This priest was not that interested in saving the souls of his parishioners, but he fought and struggled to improve the condition of their lives by introducing to the inhabitants new forms of industry to improve at least, their meager economic condition of their lives. In return, these villagers were grateful to their parish priest and they stood by to listen to what he had to say to them.

“Here is our army,” Padre Hidalgo said to Aldama and Allende. This priest became the catalyst to a revolution that would not ultimately stop for more than a hundred years! Hidalgo raised his torch over his gleaming bald head.

“My children,” he cried out, “A new dispensation comes to us today. Will you receive it? Will you free yourself? Will you recover the lands stolen three hundred years ago from our forefathers by the hated Spaniards?”

The assemblage of natives than became a mob. Fueled by such words, the people let out a war cry and lifted their torches menacingly towards the night sky.

“Will you defend your rights as true patriots? Long live our Lady of Guadalupe! Death to bad government! Death to the gachupines!”

Then the men followed the priest down towards hidden cellar below the rectory. He took an axe and broke through the wooden planks. Underneath the wooden debris lay another cache of muskets and ammunition. After the weapons were passed around, Father Hidalgo’s new “army” was on the march or rather on the rampage. The insurgent army, now turned into a vengeful mob, slaughtered and pillaged nearby towns such as San Miguel, Celaya, and finally the state capital of Guanajuato.

At the Guanajuato granary, called the Alhondiga, the royalist and other survivors of the pillage stood their final ground until the insurgent army made their way into the fortified granary and slaughtered every last survivor. Hidalgo left part of his army at the Alhondiga and went off to Morelia to claim more victories.

Eventually, the priest would meet his defeat and be captured.

But of course, the Spaniards would retaliate severely. B’ then most of Father Hidalgo’s occupying army had already fled or deserted leaving only innocent townpeople of Guanajuato. A royalist officer, called the Count DeLaCadena, nevertheless he was given an order to prepare for a mass execution.

As the church bell tolled the “death knell,” a humble Franciscan friar came out to offer up his own “grito” of mercy.

“These people have committed no crime,” the friar said. “Suspend the order for the execution. I beg you in the name of the Lord who will on the last day ask for an account of the innocent blood that will be spilled here.” The count, heeding to the words of Padre Belaunzaran, suspended the order of executions.

This account of the early uprisings for Mexican Independence is, of course, familiar to every Mexican person dead or alive. At first with Hidalgo’s unexpected Grito de Dolores, the wars for independence began to have social implications that some promise of justice and improved economic conditions for the Indians and mestizo peasants, but Spanish creolos-Spanish born in the New World were at first reluctant to support such a revolution.

Eventually, Hidalgo and his other rebels were captured and executed, burning with their headless corpses any hope of uplifting the peasant’s social conditions. In order to make the move towards independence more attractive to the Creoles and other conservatives factions, a royalist officer called Agustin de Iturbi, who first fought to defeat the insurgents, decided to turn the table and join the other side. His price for treason was the first crown of Mexico.

What actually occurred as a result of the wars of Independence was the replacement of one bad government for another. Iturbi’s reign, fortunately, only lasted a year. The promises of the Grito De Dolores have been forgotten as Creoles replaced Spanish “Gachupines” in state offices and other responsibilities of power.

Although Father Hidalgo set the path for independence on September 16, 1810, eleven years later the conservative, wealth forces of the new nation put a crown on Iturbi’s head making him the Emperor Agustin I. Meanwhile, the rotting decapitated heads of Allende, Aldama, and Father Hidalgo swung in cages from poles outside the ruined remains of the Alhondiga in Guanajuato whose motto was to become “donde la vida vale nada” (where life has no value). Another chapter in Mexico’s history was about to be written.
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IN MEMORIAM: JUAN BONILLA FLORES

www.americanlynching.com

Born: June 25, 1905 — Died: March 25, 2007

Many assume that only African-Americans were greatly victimized by lynching as tragic American phenomenon. Juan Bonilla Flores, a kind, gentle and wise man late of Odessa, but once of his cherished Porvenir, Texas - would have proved the lie to such thinking.

He was only a boy a few months shy of thirteen when his entire childhood was wrecked away during a single horror-filled night in January, 1918. U.S. Cavalry soldiers came to his village in that terrible moment of history, and local white ranchers, and Texas Rangers. All were complicit or were perpetrators in the mass lynching that came to be known as The Porvenir Massacre and claimed the lives of fifteen men and teenage boys, including Longino Flores, Juan Bonilla's beloved father. The poor villagers of Porvenir were tejanos — Mexicans living in Texas but trying to be Americans.

Throughout his long life, Mr. Flores was haunted by memories of his father and the others murdered by so many guns that their mutilated bodies were virtually unrecognizable. But until he reached his nineties, most details of what had happened were barely uttered, and his family and others murdered by lynching as tragic American phenomenon were complicit or were perpetrators in the mass lynching that came to be known as The Porvenir Massacre and claimed the lives of fifteen men and teenage boys, including Longino Flores, Juan Bonilla's beloved father. The poor villagers of Porvenir were tejanos — Mexicans living in Texas but trying to be Americans.

According to his family, Porvenir, Texas - would have proved the lie to such thinking.

As 5th District Supervisor it is my privilege to serve one of the most diverse counties in the State of California. As we recognize our community's Hispanic heritage I am reminded of the rich array of cultures that make up San Bernardino County.

The rich history and diverse communities of our county create a unique opportunity for economic growth. If we wish to bolster our economy we must take advantage of opportunities to tap into new markets and lure businesses to the area. The ability to communicate to a wide audience and bridge cultures makes San Bernardino County the ideal location for innovative entrepreneurship.

I hope that you will join me in celebrating our diversity and embrace San Bernardino County as “Opportunity, California.”

¡Felices Fiestas Patrias!

Josie Gonzales
Fifth District Supervisor, San Bernardino County
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MAP NOT TO SCALE
REACH OUT-WEST END-AN INTERVENTION TOOL

Reach Out-West End, a non-profit agency founded in 1969 in the city of Upland, has a strong motto: "Prevention Today for a Drug Free Tomorrows." The program’s mission is to "reach out" to low-income residents to provide educational tools in various endeavors to create a drug-free environment.

In order to enhance the educational component, Reach Out-West End joined in a partnership with Northtown Community Center in Rancho Cucamonga to provide its Financial Literacy Program.

The Financial Literacy Program is a 10 week course that covers basic aspects of everyday financial business. The topics include credit, credit cards, banking, budgets, savings, and consumer rights. In order to learn from actual experiences, businesspersons are invited to share in their expertise in the world of business.

One of the guests was Yulin Karaiscos with Inland Empire Funding Group. Karaiscos explained various types of loans and credit repair, in which students found to be helpful in their education. Students are also provided with take-home guides for each of the topic.

The program’s outcome is a practical approach to the participant’s personal life. Overall, the program guides the participants to find financial stability.

METROLINK WEEKEND Adventures

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UCR APPOINTS PROFESSOR TO CHAIR OF AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS STUDIES

Clifford E. Trafzer, professor of American history at the University of California, Riverside, has been appointed the Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs. Trafzer said he was honored by the appointment. "It is a privilege to conduct research with the Indian tribes of California and share their historical and cultural knowledge with other scholars and the general public," said Trafzer, who has taught at UCR for 16 years and served as director of the California Center for Native Nations in 2006-07. "The Costo Chair will allow those of us working in American Indian Studies to further the academic mission that Rupert and Jeannette Costo set out for us in the 1980s."

Rupert Costo (Cahuilla) and Jeannette Henry Costo (Cherokee) helped found UC Riverside in the mid-20th century. In 1986, they created the Costo Chair of American Indian Affairs, the first chair in the nation endowed by American Indians. The Costos also established UCR's Costo Library of the American Indian and Costo Archives, and inspired the creation of the university's California Center for Native Nations.

SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED'S TEST SCORES SHOW STEADY GROWTH ONCE AGAIN

More schools in the San Bernardino City Unified School District are meeting state and federal academic targets. Scores released Friday by the California Department of Education show that the number of elementary schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) increased from 15 to 18.

"We recognize that more work lies ahead for all of our schools and our students, but these scores validate that we are headed in the right direction," said Dr. Arturo Delgado, superintendent of the 58,000-student school district that serves Highland and San Bernardino.

According to the state's Academic Performance Index, which is a numeric index that ranges from a low of 200 to a high of 1,000, Richardson PREP HI Middle School continues to be the top-scoring middle school in San Bernardino County, with an API of 912.

For the first time since the state's school testing program began, San Bernardino has an elementary school scoring at 800, the score the state has set as the goal for all schools to reach.

Palm Avenue Elementary School, which has grown 151 API points in the past eight years, scored exactly at 800. "We are really happy to have joined the 800 club," said Janet Stinson, the school's principal. "Our teachers and staff have worked very hard so that our school can make steady growth and progress every year."

The state Academic Performance Index measures schools' progress from one year to the next. The index takes into account performance on the California Standards Tests, the California Achievement Tests and, for high schools, the California High School Exit Exam.

MONEY-SAVING TIPS FOR SENIORS; REDUCING EVERYDAY LIVING COSTS

(NAPS)—It's called the "golden years" for the number of years you've lived and enjoyed, but in the state of California, you may be able to turn your age into a golden opportunity for saving money.

With housing prices, utility bills and other expenses reaching all-time highs, it could pay to see if you can take advantage of some existing programs that can help you save hundreds over years. You'll need to register or sign up for these programs, but in the end, your wallet will probably thank you for taking the time. Try these tips:

Housing

Housing opportunities for seniors is one area you may want to research. Although moving or relocating might not be what you have in mind, you can take advantage of subsidized housing (commonly known as Section 8) through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD.

You won't have to go too far away from your family or your community of preference, because you can choose any city in the state. The online HUD database can search by ZIP code or city where subsidized housing is available at www.hud.gov or you can call or visit the local HUD office listed on the Web site or in your neighborhood phone book.

Electric And Gas Bills

Monthly expenses for utilities can also take a toll on your pocket-book, especially if you're living on limited Social Security, pension or retirement funds. You may be able to reduce your monthly utility bills by reviewing the annual income guidelines for CARE and Lifeline, two money-saving programs administered by the California Public Utilities Commission.

The CARE program can help you save up to 20 percent a month on your gas and electric bills. All you need to do is call the customer service telephone number of your local gas or electric company listed on your monthly statement. It's simple and confidential to sign up.

Phone Bills

Another way to help reduce monthly costs is to enroll in the California LifeLine telephone program, which provides local home-phone service for as little as $6 a month or less, plus taxes and surcharges. There's no need to get a new telephone number or even change your current telephone service provider. You can enroll in California LifeLine by calling (866) 272-0349 or online at www.californialifeline.com.

Medication

If you're tired of spending hundreds of dollars on medication, you may want to take advantage of Medicare's Part D. The Medicare Part D program provides beneficiaries with assistance in paying for prescription drugs.

To see if you are eligible, call (800) MEDICARE (633)-4227 or visit www.medicare.gov. If you need extra help paying for a plan due to limited income, you can apply online by visiting the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan section on the Social Security Administration Web site, www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptiondrughelp, or call Social Security toll free at (800) 772-1213.

The golden years are for creating golden memories and enjoying friends and family, not for worrying about how much you're spending on monthly bills. Take advantage of many saving programs such as CARE and LifeLine, so that you can put your worries to rest and rest without worries.

The City of San Bernardino Employment & Training Agency

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IS YOUR TEEN READY FOR MORE RESPONSIBILITY?
By the American Counseling Association

One of the hardest things for many parents to deal with is the demand for more freedoms that they face as their children grow into teenagers. After years of making most of your child's decisions and putting your child's needs first, you find yourself confronting a young adult who wants the freedom to face more of the world on his or her own.

At some level, of course, we all recognize that our teenagers need increasing amounts of freedom and responsibility. It's a natural part of the developmental process.

At the same time, we realize there are very real reasons to go slow in allowing our teens more freedoms. Constant news reports and local stories of teen substance abuse, pregnancies, violence and much more naturally make us worry about the world our teen is facing.

But when we constantly say "no" to our teens' requests, trying to protect and shield them just a little longer, the result is often family conflict, with our teenager pulling away and no longer confiding in us, or going behind our backs seeking the desired freedom.

While there is no magic cure, there are steps you can take to minimize the conflict. One is simply to improve communications.

Sit down with your teen and try to explain your fears and anxieties related to granting increased freedoms. While hearing about your worries may not win your teen's full acceptance or understanding, it can open up meaningful dialogues that can lead to acceptable compromises.

The next step is to allow increasing amounts of freedom and responsibilities - opportunities for your teenager to prove he or she really is ready to be more independent.

How much can you trust? How much responsibility should you grant? There are no absolute answers, just judgment calls you have to make based on your teen's personality and past performance.

Yes, mistakes will be made, but also note that most of the time things will turn out just fine. Try to understand that this is also a difficult and often confusing process for your teen.

Your decisions are still going to worry you, and upset your teen at times, but when you make a conscious effort to allow increased levels of freedom and responsibility, while also fairly measuring how well your teen handles the changes, you should find that the struggles with your teenager should begin to diminish.

"The Counseling Corner" is provided as a public service by the American Counseling Association, the nation's largest organization of counseling professionals. Learn more about the counseling profession at the ACA web site, www.counseling.org.

READIMG BUDDIES KICKOFF FOR S. B. BURBANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SAN BERNARDINO - The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, in partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino and the San Bernardino Unified School District, will kick off Reading Buddies at Burbank Elementary School on Sept. 10 at 1 p.m.

The volunteer reading program calls on business, civic, community and education leaders to commit to reading to students once a month in a classroom environment.

San Bernardino County Superintendent Herbert Fischer, Burbank Principal Dorothy Fenster and other officials will lead the kickoff event.

"Reading is fundamental to quality education. It is a building block that fosters lifelong learning for all of us," Fischer said. "It is important for our young people to see that reading has a role in everyone's life."

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At Bud Light, we know that your community’s future is directly linked to your own. That is why in the past few years, we’ve contributed more than $45 million to local Hispanic organizations, including art programs. So that together, we can make the dream of a better community come true.
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, Sept 5, 2007

Join the SBPD Team

The San Bernardino Police Department is now hiring for the position of Police Officer.

Salary: $4685-$6442 monthly

Additional Positions Include:

- Law Enforcement Trainee
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The San Bernardino Police Department is seeking qualified individuals to work in the exciting field of law enforcement. Along with a competitive salary and benefits package, the San Bernardino Police Department offers a 4/10 work schedule along with paid vacation, holiday time and sick leave.

For additional information log on to www.JoinSBPD.org or contact the recruiter at (909)388-4847