SBCSS SPECIAL ASSISTANT NAMED WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN THE 62ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

The annual Woman of the Year Event in Sacramento kicks off Women's History Month

Linda Miranda, a top SBCSS field representative was honored at the State Capitol Monday as Woman of the Year for the 62nd Assembly District.

Miranda, Special Assistant to the Superintendent of San Bernardino County Schools, was chosen as honoree by 62nd District Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter. "She represents the salt of the earth of women in my district," said Assembly Member Carter, who will honor Miranda in a formal ceremony on the floors of the Senate and Assembly. "Education has been a big part of her life. She knows how hard she has to work in a position that impacts the lives of so many young people. She is someone that young people can learn from and admire."

As special assistant to the Superintendent, Miranda serves as a direct communication and resource people can learn from and admire."

SENATOR GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD HONORS LOCAL RESIDENT

Patricia Green-Lee named Women of the Year for work fighting HIV/AIDS, and domestic violence

The founder of a non-profit that fights domestic violence and HIV/AIDS has been named the 32nd District's Woman of the Year by Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod (Inland Empire).

Patricia Green-Lee, CEO and founder of the Rialto-based Brothers and Sisters in Action (BASIA), will be honored in a ceremony at the State Capitol Monday, March 5 in recognition of her work in the African-American community.

"This was a difficult process because there are so many women who work incredibly hard to make their communities a better place," Negrete McLeod said. "Even so, Patricia Green-Lee stands out. She uses her own experience to reflect the reality of domestic violence and HIV."

Green-Lee holds a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science and Human Services and is certificated in substance abuse and domestic violence, Negrete McLeod said. "Besides all of her work with BASIA, Patricia's expertise and support were instrumental in the success of a domestic violence town Continued on page 3

REP. BACA Launches ANTI-CRIME EFFORT

Congressman announced "Let Us Stamp Out Gang Violence" and unveiled two bills to reduce crime and support youth programs in San Bernardino and throughout the country

At a press conference at the San Bernardino County Probation Department, Congressman Baca was joined by San Bernardino Mayor Pat Morris, San Bernardino County Probation Director Michelle Scray, probation department officials, area and national law enforcement representatives, and leaders from community groups concerned about public safety.

Congressman Baca unveiled his latest plans to stem the tide of gang violence. "We are here because our communities and our neighborhoods have been hit hard by violent crime. We have suffered. We have lost friends and neighbors to violence. And we are determined to put an end to violent crime. It is time to Stamp Continued on page 4

LINDA MIRANDA - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SCHOOLS SPECIAL ASSISTANT "WOMAN OF THE YEAR" FOR 62ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LINDA MIRANDA, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SCHOOLS, WAS CHOSEN AS HONOREE BY 62ND DISTRICT ASSEMBLY MEMBER WILMER AMINA CARTER. "SHE REPRESENTS THE SALT OF THE EARTH OF WOMEN IN MY DISTRICT," SAID ASSEMBLY MEMBER CARTER, WHO WILL HONOR MIRANDA IN A FORMAL CEREMONY ON THE FLOORS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY. "EDUCATION HAS BEEN A BIG PART OF HER LIFE. SHE KNOWS HOW HARD SHE HAS TO WORK IN A POSITION THAT IMPACTS THE LIVES OF SO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE. SHE IS SOMEONE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE CAN LEARN FROM AND ADMIRE."

AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, MIRANDA SERVES AS A DIRECT COMMUNICATION AND RESOURCE PEOPLE CAN LEARN FROM AND ADMIRE."

PATRICIA GREEN-LEE - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SCHOOLS SPECIAL ASSISTANT "WOMAN OF THE YEAR" FOR 32ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

PATRICIA GREEN-LEE, CEO AND FOUNDER OF THE RIALTO-BASED BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ACTION (BASIA), WILL BE HONORED IN A CEREMONY AT THE STATE CAPITOL MONDAY, MARCH 5 IN RECOGNITION OF HER WORK IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

"THIS WAS A DIFFICULT PROCESS BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY WOMEN WHO WORK INCREDIBLY HARD TO MAKE THEIR COMMUNITIES A BETTER PLACE," NEGRETE MCLEOD SAID. "EVEN SO, PATRICIA GREEN-LEE STANDS OUT. SHE USES HER OWN EXPERIENCE TO REFLECT THE REALITY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HIV."

GREEN-LEE HOLDS A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN SERVICES AND IS CERTIFICATED IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, NEGRETE MCLEOD SAID. "BESIDES ALL OF HER WORK WITH BASIA, PATRICIA'S EXPERTISE AND SUPPORT WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE SUCCESS OF A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOWN\n
CONGRESSMAN JOE BACA SPOKE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE HE ANNOUNCED THE PRESENTATION OF TWO LEGISLATIVE BILLS, HR 1070, TO FINANCE A NATIONAL FUND FOR THE GREAT PROGRAM, AND HR 1069, A COMPANION BILL WITH SENATOR BOXER FOR CREATION OF A NATIONAL INTERAGENCY GANG PREVENTION TASK FORCE. PHOTO BY IEHN

CONGRESSMAN JOE BACA SPOKE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE HE ANNOUNCED THE PRESENTATION OF TWO LEGISLATIVE BILLS, HR 1070, TO FINANCE A NATIONAL FUND FOR THE GREAT PROGRAM, AND HR 1069, A COMPANION BILL WITH SENATOR BOXER FOR CREATION OF A NATIONAL INTERAGENCY GANG PREVENTION TASK FORCE. PHOTO BY IEHN

LINDA MIRANDA, A TOP SBCSS FIELD REPRESENTATIVE WAS HONORED AT THE STATE CAPITOL MONDAY AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR THE 62ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT.

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A CHANGE OF HEART ON GUEST WORKERS
By Janet Murguia—an editorial comment

After President Bush highlighted the need for a temporary-worker program as part of a larger immigration reform in his State of the Union address, Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) compared the president’s proposal to slavery. Rangel is right to be concerned. Our nation’s history with such programs has been dreadful.

Many Latinos still have searing memories of the infamous bracero program, which more than 50 years ago became synonymous with worker abuse. The current guest-worker programs for agriculture and other "non-skilled" labor are not much better. Experience tells us that there is good reason to be concerned that a new worker visa program could repeat these mistakes, creating a permanent, sizable subclass of workers who endure harsh treatment while simultaneously undercutting their American co-workers. While simultaneously undercutting workers who endure harsh treatment, some think we got here as the path for immigrant workers, for their pathway for the future flow of migrants — we will have addressed the future flow of migrants — we will have addressed the symptoms of our broken system without repairing it. The cost of this mistake will be enormous: a continued death toll at the border; a sizable flow of undocumented workers who come to this country under harsher conditions; increased harassment of and discrimination against Hispanics Americans often mistaken for immigrants; and exacerbated public frustration that the immigration issue is still not under control.

But we do not have to repeat past mistakes. The immigration reform bill the Senate passed last year contains a much different model of a worker visa program than the unjust model we have lived with for decades. Workers would not be at the mercy of abusive employers in that they could change jobs and alert the authorities to mistreatment. Rather than becoming a permanent second-class workforce, they would have the opportunity to earn a path to permanent status — and ultimately citizenship — as one of the only classes of migrants able to petition for themselves rather than relying on an employer or relative to petition for them. There are important labor protections for immigrant workers as well as for their American co-workers, including a requirement that immigrant workers be paid the prevailing wage in an industry to avoid undercutting the wages of American workers employed there.

Some think we got here as the result of some devil’s bargain with our allies among business leaders: They get a new worker program, and we get a path to citizenship for undocumented workers. Not so. We have concluded that a new legal pathway for the future flow of immigrant workers to the United States is the safest, most reasonable path for immigrant workers, for their co-workers in this country, and for a nation hungry for order and control at the border.

We share that hunger. Latinos know that even if we pass immigration reforms that include a path to citizenship for millions of immigrants who work, pay taxes and otherwise contribute to our nation, we will have failed to fix our nation's broken immigration system unless we do what previous reforms did not: Acknowledge that there will continue to be a flow across the border and that we will do everything we can to control and regulate it.

If this year’s immigration debate accomplishes what the debate in 1986 did — marry a legalization program with additional enforcement without addressing the future flow of migrants — we will have addressed the symptoms of our broken system without repairing it. The cost of this mistake will be enormous: a continued death toll at the border; a sizable flow of undocumented workers who come to this country under harsher conditions; increased harassment of and discrimination against Hispanics Americans often mistaken for immigrants; and exacerbated public frustration that the immigration issue is still not under control.

But we do not have to repeat past mistakes. The immigration reform bill the Senate passed last year contains a much different model of a worker visa program than the unjust model we have lived with for decades. Workers would not be at the mercy of abusive employers in that they could change jobs and alert the authorities to mistreatment. Rather than becoming a permanent second-class workforce, they would have the opportunity to earn a path to permanent status — and ultimately citizenship — as one of the only classes of migrants able to petition for themselves rather than relying on an employer or relative to petition for them. There are important labor protections for immigrant workers as well as for their American co-workers, including a requirement that immigrant workers be paid the prevailing wage in an industry to avoid undercutting the wages of American workers employed there.

The 110th Congress has an opportunity to build from this strong start and do even better. We are deeply aware of the risks of going down this path in the immigration reform debate, including accusations that we are selling out one group of immigrant workers to help another. But our critics offer no practical solutions for the flow of migrants that will surely continue or for the abuses these workers will face if they survive the trip across the border. We owe it to migrants, as well as to the nation that their hard work will sustain, to shape a new path for migration that is legal, safe and endowed with protections for immigrant and American workers alike.

Janet Murguia is President and Chief Executive of the National Council of La Raza, one of the outstanding Latino advocacy organizations in the United States.
Among the many troubling aspects of the public debate over immigration is the power of myths over facts. One of the most enduring myths about immigration, despite literally decades of evidence to the contrary, is the belief that immigrants are more likely to commit crime than the native-born. This myth is so widespread and unquestioned that it has been the catalyst for scores of local governments to consider anti-immigrant ordinances over the past year. These calls to crack down on undocumented immigrants, the employers who hire them and the landlords who rent to them, are framed in part as “anti-crime” ordinances.

The city council of Hazleton, Pennsylvania, for instance, passed an ordinance last September claiming that “illegal immigration leads to higher crime rates” and that the council therefore must protect legal residents of the city from “crimes committed by illegal aliens.”

Because most of the undocumented immigrants in Hazleton and other communities throughout the United States are young men from Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and elsewhere in Latin America, who have little money or formal education, it is assumed that they are more likely to commit crimes than the native-born. Government and academic studies, however, have demonstrated repeatedly for the past century that immigrants actually are less likely to commit crimes than the native-born. Even though immigration has increased dramatically over the past decade and a half, the crime rate in the United States has declined.

Since 1994, the number of undocumented immigrants in the United States has more than doubled to 12 million. Immigrants, both legal and undocumented, now comprise just fewer than 13 percent of the population. Yet, according to the FBI, between 1994 and 2005 the violent crime rate (murder, robbery, rape, and assault) fell 34.2 percent and the property crime rate (burglary, theft) dropped 26.4 percent.

If immigration—either legal or undocumented—were associated with crime, then crime rates should be rising. An upcoming report from the Immigration Policy Center further dispels the notion that immigration and crime are connected. Using data from the 2000 Census, the report shows that immigrants are less likely than the native-born to be behind bars. Among men age 18 to 39 (who comprise the vast majority of inmates in federal and state prisons and local jails), immigrants were five times less likely to be incarcerated than the native-born in 2000.

About 3.5 percent of native-born men were in prison, compared with 0.7 percent of foreign-born men. Immigrants from Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala were much less likely to be in prison than native-born, non-Hispanic whites. Roughly 0.7 percent of foreign-born Mexican men and 0.5 percent of foreign-born Salvadoran and Guatemalan men were in prison, compared with 1.7 percent of native-born, non-Hispanic white men.

These findings are not new. Three government commissions investigated the relationship between immigration and crime during the last era of large-scale immigration to the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when millions of immigrants arrived from Italy, Ireland, Russia, Poland, and other nations in Europe. All three commissions came to the same conclusion: immigrants are less likely to commit crimes than natives. Despite a century’s worth of evidence that immigration does not breed crime, the stereotype of immigrants as criminals continues to flourish in the media and among policymakers. Popular movies and television shows often feature gun-wielding, drug-dealing criminals from south of the border. News reports of violent crimes committed by gangs such as the Salvadoran Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) often overshadow the fact that an extraordinarily small number of immigrants are in gangs and that gangs are found in every ethnic group among both natives and the foreign-born.

Adding insult to injury, many politicians regularly declare their resolve to stem the criminal tide allegedly unleashed by undocumented immigrants. Even President Bush, who favors immigration reform that creates more legal channels for immigration to the United States, declared in a May 15, 2006 address to the nation that illegal immigration “brings crime to our communities.”

There is no denying that crime is a serious problem in the United States. But it is not a problem created or even aggravated by immigration. Quite the opposite, in fact. Immigrants are less likely to commit crimes of all types than the native-born. This suggests that crime is linked not to one’s place of birth, but to the many other forces which foster crime in this country, especially in relatively poor communities: high rates of divorce and family disintegration, high rates of alcohol and drug abuse, etc.

The solution to crime does not lie in immigration policy. And the solution to undocumented immigration does not lie in misguided “get tough” policies that scapegoat immigrants as criminals.

Walter Ewing is a Research Associate at the Immigration Policy Center. IMMIGRATION MATTERS regularly features the views of the nation’s leading immigrant rights advocates.

CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT AND UCR ALUMNA, BARBARA KERR WILL SPEAK ON THURSDAY, MARCH 8th

RIVERSIDE, Calif. www.ucr.edu
California Teachers Association President Barbara Kerr will discuss “Hot Topics in Education” at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 8 at the University of California, Riverside Extension Center.

The event is hosted by the Graduate School of Education at UCR. To reserve a seat by Friday (March 2, 2007), call (951) 827-6388 or email marie.schultz@ucr.edu.

Kerr, a 1968 alumna from UCR, represents the 340,000-member California Teachers Association, the largest state public schools teachers union in the nation.

Her career in public education and in advocacy has paralleled the controversies that have swirled around public education over the past three decades, becoming the president of her local chapter in Riverside following the passage of Proposition 13, the landmark property tax initiative that disproportionately impacted poor, non-urban schools. Kerr has battled in Sacramento for issues such as protecting small class sizes, providing additional funding for schools in poorer neighborhoods, improving teacher salaries and freeing up time for learning by reducing the battery of state-mandated standardized tests.

Ongoing issues include basing school funding on standards of adequacy and equity; improving teacher salaries and training and assistance for beginning teachers; creating accountability systems that focus on helping students learn rather than sanctioning schools; and finding support for schools with the greatest needs.

Kerr is a long-time first-grade teacher at Woodcrest Elementary School in Riverside. She was elected president of CTA in 2003 and re-elected to a second term in 2005.
liaison between the county superintendent, community members and community-based groups in order to foster school safety. She works with the Alliance for Education which is a school/business labor partnership.

Miranda has about 20 years of direct experience working with numerous diverse community groups, organizations, boards and elected officials to improve educational, business and community opportunities for the Inland Empire region. Among her professional and service activities, she is past president of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and past treasurer with the Hispanic Educational Advancement Foundation and treasurer of the Inland Counties Hispanic Roundtable. According to Herbert R. Fischer, County Superintendent, Miranda is a "strong advocate for assuring all students, particularly underrepresented students, are granted the highest quality educational opportunities." In 2000, the League of Women Voters recognized Miranda with their Citizen of Achievement Award. In 1999, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors presented her with the Outstanding Small Business Advocate Award and Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine named her among those recognized as Most Influential-Making a Difference in the region.

Miranda has served as administrative secretary for the Business Services division of SBCSS since 1999 and prior to that was executive administrative assistant for Matich Corporation. She is a graduate of Colton High School and mother of two children.

The annual Woman of the Year event was started in 1987 by former Assembly Members Bev Hansen and Sally Tanner. They noticed that the California Legislature had no events planned for the month of March, which is Women's History Month. In celebration of the contributions to society made by remarkable women statewide, Hansen and Tanner arranged to invite one woman from each Senate and Assembly district to come to the Capitol and be honored for their accomplishments.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (HCV)
RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WAITING LIST OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino (HACSB) will be conducting open enrollment to establish a waiting list for the HCV program, formerly known as Section 8.

Open enrollment application dates are from:

March 5, 2007 until March 29, 2007.

Applications will not be accepted or distributed in person.

www.hacsb.com
or if "local" call (909) 388-9263
and long distance callers may dial 1-(877) 954-2272
for a recorded message on how to apply.

For the hearing impaired please call California Relay Service at 1(800)7138-2822

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

REP. BACA LAUNCHES ANTI-CRIME EFFORT

Congressman Baca announced "Let Us Stamp Out Gang Violence" and unveiled two bills to reduce crime and support youth programs in San Bernardino and throughout the country.

"Out Gang Violence!"

Baca announced the introduction of two major bills. The first, the Stamp Out Gang Violence Act (H.R. 1070), would provide a funding source for the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Program through revenue raised by the sale of a new special-rate U.S. postage stamp. Consumers who wish to contribute to anti-gang programs could choose to purchase the stamp which could be used for first-class mail. It would be sold for 45 cents instead of the standard rate, with the additional revenue being allocated for the GREAT Program (Gang Resistance Education and Training).

GREAT is an existing program, administered by the U.S. Justice Department, which sends law enforcement officers into schools around the country to educate students about the dangers of gang activity, and give them the skills to resist gang recruitment. The second is known as Mynisha's Law (H.R. 1069), named in memory of Mynisha Crenshaw, a San Bernardino girl who died after being shot by gang members. Mynisha's Law will allow the U.S. Attorney General to establish an interagency gang prevention task force consisting of representatives from the Departments of Justice, Education, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Urban Development. This task force would create a comprehensive national gang prevention strategy, focusing on early childhood intervention, at-risk youth intervention, literacy, employment, and community policing. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) has introduced Mynisha's Law (S. 144) in the Senate.

Baca strongly believes the core solution to the continuing crime in San Bernardino and throughout the county is prevention and intervention programs through cooperative operations by law enforcement, probation department, community groups and the clergy.

Mayor Morris spoke in conjunction of the two approaches, and spoke in support of the dual legislation by Baca and Senator Barbara Boxer's Mynisha's Law, the comparable bill introduced in the Senate. Morris briefly discussed Operation Phoenix, and its success in a designated neighborhood in San Bernardino. That program implements the two components with suppression by law enforcement. The program has successfully lowered the crime in that area by 35%.

Baca said, "Although San Bernardino and other parts of the Inland Empire have experienced some tragic episodes, we are not alone. Gang violence and crime are national problems that require federal assistance. We must work together to make a difference both locally and nationally to make our communities safer for children and families."

Latino Network invites the public to join in celebrating the Tenth Annual Celebración de la Mujer Demonstrating Leadership & Commitment to Community

Friday, March 16, 2007
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Zacatecas Café
2472 University Avenue - Riverside
Luncheon - $20.00 per person
RSVP by March 13 - Andrea Figueroa (951) 683-8935

"Look at our women. They are strong - you can feel it. They are the rocks on which we really build.

Dolores Huerta
Wilmer Amina Carter (D—Rialto) is attempting to provide California schools, administrators, teachers, and parents with the necessary tools to develop outside the classroom and within their community as well (AB 471).”

The college application process is becoming more complex and more competitive every school year, and unfortunately California is ranked 50th among the 50 states in counselor-to-pupil ratio. Therefore students are not getting the proper attention and direction that they need in order to ensure that they remain on the college-bound track.

In many cases such crucial information is not available to parents, and so they are also unable to help when, as in many cases, the school counselors are too overworked. Furthermore, California schools must look beyond just the curriculum requirements and work to create facilities that will further benefit students in their educational goals.

AB 428, AB 471, and AB 491 seek to better inform parents and students of the CSU/UC application requirements, increase the counselor to student ratio to ensure that no students slip through the cracks, and to provide adequate funding for school building projects.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER CARTER INTRODUCES IMPORTANT LEGISLATION RELATING TO EDUCATION

SACRAMENTO— Under legislation to amend current education codes, Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter (D—Rialto) is attempting to provide California schools, administrators, teachers, and parents with the necessary tools to place students on the college-bound track.

“I have always made education one of my main priorities and therefore saw the opportunity to amend the current education codes as a means to further my goals for the California education system,” said Assembly Member Carter. “My legislation will help to ensure that students receive as much one-on-one attention as possible with school counselors (AB 491); as well as for parents to be better informed of CSU/UC-A-G curriculum requirements, in order to help to prepare their students for the rigorous college application process (AB 428).

This legislation also addresses the importance of providing more that just in-class knowledge, but allows for school districts to receive construction monies in order to create active recreation projects, so that California students can grow and develop outside the classroom and within their community as well (AB 471).”

The college application process is becoming more complex and more competitive every school year, and unfortunately California is ranked 50th among the 50 states in counselor-to-pupil ratio. Therefore students are not getting the proper attention and direction that they need in order to ensure that they remain on the college-bound track.

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DREAM ACT reintroduction announced

Representatives Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Howard Berman (D-CA) and Roybal-Allard (D-CA) announced that they will introduce the DREAM Act of 2007.

In the Senate Richard Durbin (D-IL) has announced that he will also do so within days, along with Senators Chuck Hagel (R-NE) and Richard Lugar (R-IN).

The DREAM Act is bipartisan legislation that provides a path to legal residency for individuals who were brought to the U.S. years ago as undocumented immigrant children but who have since grown up here, stayed in school, and kept out of trouble. Most analysts agree that the DREAM Act stands a better chance of becoming law this year than ever before.

Immigration and student activists have urged human rights organizations and local student rights activists to contact their Congressional representatives and show support for the DREAM Act.

The following relevant points are suggested when speaking to congressional representatives:

• These students came to the US at the age of 15 or younger, have lived in the US for at least 5 years, and graduated from US high schools. This is the only country many of them know.
• Approximately 65,000 undocumented students overcome the odds to graduate from American high schools each year, but they face high barriers to higher education. The DREAM Act would give them an opportunity to fully contribute according to their ability.
• The DREAM Act is a good deal for taxpayers because it will increase the educational attainment of immigrants, thereby increasing the amount of taxes they pay.
• If you are a DREAM Act student, or know someone who is, tell their story.

DEVELOP A WINNING BUSINESS PLAN

Riverside, CA – A workshop designed for prospective or current small business owners is being presented by SCORE “Counselors to America’s Small Business”. It will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2007, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Riverside Public Library Auditorium, 3581 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA, 92501.

A “living” business plan is an important management tool of every business owner. Know where you are going! Develop a realistic business plan as your roadmap to growth and financial viability. Learn step-by-step how to write a business plan that will document your vision, goals and tactics and then continue to work for you. Understand every aspect of your business and be able to monitor your progress.

The featured speaker and SCORE volunteer is Carl Woodard. During his extensive business career Carl marketed, managed and sold many of the country’s largest food brands, such as those of Hunt Foods.

The cost is $30 with on-line pre-registration or $40 (cash or check) at the door. To register contact SCORE at www.score114.org. SCORE is partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

HASE & ASSOCIATES SYSTEMS, INC.

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ARMC-PEDIATRICS UNIT RECEIVES VIDEO GAME EQUIPMENT

Hollywood Video/Game Crazy Centers and Starlight-Starbright Foundation recently presented to the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center-Pediatrics Unit with an abundance of videogame equipment, including video games, DVDs, big screen TV, DVD players, according to Jorge Valencia, ARMC’s Director of Business Development and Marketing.

Valencia said that the video equipment totaled over $11,000, and will help the seriously ill children with their difficulties while they are hospitalized through entertainment, education, and family activities. “We are very grateful for these gifts,” said Webister Wong, Chairmen of ARMC’s Pediatrics Department. “We hope this equipment will make the period of hospitalization a little easier for our patients.”

Hollywood Video/Game Crazy Centers in association with Starlight-Starbright Foundation collected donations from their staff and patrons to fund the video equipment. The presentation showcased the equipment and honored corporate representatives who commented on their partnership with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

Approximately 1,500 children are treated in the 23-bed pediatrics unit at ARMC in an average year for all types of pediatric medical conditions. ARMC, a state-of-the-art health facility offering comprehensive services for children and adults of all ages, is operated by the County of San Bernardino.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ANNOUNCED MARCH AND RALLY PLANS FOR MARCH 17TH

The National Alliance for Human Rights (NAHR) held a press conference at San Bernardino City Hall of an “Anti-War, Pro-Immigration Reform, and Peace in Our Communities” march scheduled for Saturday, March 17th 2007, commencing at 11:30 a.m. at La Placita Park, (corner of Mt. Vernon and 7th Street), San Bernardino, followed by a march to the San Bernardino City Hall, 300 N. “D” Street, and a rally in front of the Martin Luther King Statue at 1:00 p.m.

The press conference was attended by organizations throughout Southern California, MAPA, MECHA from the University of California, Riverside, and San Bernardino Community College, Comite Latino del Valle de Coachella, LACLAA-San Gabriel/Pomona Valley, representatives from Inland Empire cities, students and clergy.

Armando Navarro, NAHR Coordinator, spoke on the March 17th Mobilization and the rally to include speakers, music, entertainment, and information on citizenship training, voter registration, and the rights of undocumented workers should they be detained by ICE or the police.

Navarro stated, “the significance of the Anti-War, Pro-Immigrant Rights, and Peace in our Community Mobilization is that people from divergent ethnicities and races are being asked to come together in a spirit of unity to demonstrate concern on three themes to demonstrate on the issue of the Iraq war, and that we want our troops withdrawn from Iraq, the issue of immigration, where a humane and comprehensive immigration that will legalize the 12 million undocumented workers, and the issue of peace in our communities, a peace among California’s divergent ethnic/racial communities.”

Father Patricio Guillen, director of La Libreria del Pueblo, spoke on the unity of our communities and reconciliation of people of all backgrounds. “The issue of immigration is one of human rights, above that of legal immigration laws, where persons come to our country to earn a living, regardless of any other status.”

Among other speakers were UCR students Raquel Madrigal, Jesus Humberto, and Cofa Lopez, who spoke on voter registration and challenges for students to continue their education. Students from San Bernardino Community College and Arroyo Valley High School participated in the press conference.

“These are politically propitious times to foment people participation. We intend to use the March 17th Mobilization in San Bernardino to ignite the fires of activism on the issues of peace in Iraq, immigration reform, and peace in our communities,” concluded Navarro.

LATINO CHILDREN IN U.S. MORE LIKELY TO BE OBESE BY AGE THREE THAN BLACKS, WHITES, STUDY SAYS

Latino children in the U.S. are more likely to be obese by age three than Black or White children, according to a study released on Monday by the Mathematica Policy Research, Reuters/Boston Globe reports.

The report is based on a study of 2,452 children born in 75 U.S. hospitals who reached the age of three between 2001 and 2003.

Findings show that 18% of all children are obese by age three, with rates of 25% among Hispanic children, 16% among black children and 14% among white children.

According to Reuters/Globe, “disparity remained even after researchers accounted for socioeconomic factors — such as household income, the mother’s education level and whether the child had regular access to food. “Obesity levels were measured according to the body mass index of children calculated during in-home visits. Children with BMIs in the 95th percentile or higher for their age and gender are considered obese”.

The report concludes, “disparity in obesity between Hispanic and non-Hispanic children seems to develop early in life, so future research ... should focus on the period from conception to school entry.”

Inland Empire Hispanic News Wednesday, March 7, 2007

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CAL STATE SAN BERNARDINO MAKING COLLEGE HAPPEN FOR LOCAL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. - Most junior high and middle school students probably aren’t yet thinking about where they want to go to college. But given the low college-going rate among students who live in the Inland Empire, this is exactly the time parents and their children should start thinking about college, said Cynthia Olivo, associate director of admissions and student recruitment at Cal State San Bernardino.

To help put the bug in their ear and start the college preparation process, Cal State San Bernardino will host its annual “College: Making It Happen” event for middle and high school parents on Wednesday, March 14, at the university’s Santos Manuel Student Union.

Designed to empower parents with the information they need to send their children to college, “College: Making It Happen” seeks mainly to motivate and educate parents, teachers and counselors about the requirements needed to enter college. The event will spell out the realities of college costs and how to apply for financial aid.

The event will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. and is free to the public. Free childcare for preschool and school-age children will be available.

For more information on the event, contact CSUSB’s Admissions and Student Recruitment office at (909) 537-5188 or e-mail asrevents@csusb.edu to make reservations. For more information about Cal State San Bernardino, contact the university’s public affairs office at (909) 537-5007 and visit http://news.csusb.edu.

FIRST 5 SAN BERNARDINO AND CHILDREN’S NETWORK REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF CHILDREN IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

(San Bernardino, CA) – First 5 San Bernardino and Children’s Network collaborated to improve outcomes for children and families in San Bernardino County.

There are 573,105 children in San Bernardino County representing 29% of the County's total population, 174,307 of those children are ages 0-5.

San Bernardino County children face many challenges, for example in 2005, 40,173 unique children were referred to the department of Children’s Services for suspected child abuse and neglect. Approximately 29.3% of children born in San Bernardino County are exposed to alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs during fetal brain development. And, many children still do not have access to early childhood education, which can promote school success and reduce crime.

According to Supervisor Josie Gonzales, Chairman of the First 5 Children and Families Commission, "children are our most precious resource. It is imperative that all of us make children a priority, and that we work together to insure that every child grows up safe, healthy, and succeeds in school."

First 5 San Bernardino and Children’s Network held a press conference on March 2, regarding the status of children and families in San Bernardino County. For more information on the status of children in San Bernardino County call Kent Paxton at Children’s Network, (909) 387-8966 or Richard Jarvis at First 5 San Bernardino, (909) 386-7706.

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