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RIVERSIDE WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB HOLDS FIRST INSTALLATION/HONORS BANQUET

The Riverside Women's Democratic Club held its First Annual Installation/Honors Banquet at the Riverside Holiday Inn Select on February 9, attended by elected officials and political activists from Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Sylvia Martin-James was mistress of ceremonies for the evening.

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MARY TENORIO-ZANESKI RETIRES FROM PACIFIC BELL

Mary Tenorio-Zaneski addressing the guests at her retirement dinner at the San Bernardino Hilton. Tenorio-Zaneski retired from Pacific Bell after a 23 year career and newly appointed as vice president of EF&I Division of Complex, Inc., Corona.

On February 15, a reception and dinner was held at the San Bernardino Hilton to honor Mary Tenorio-Zaneski for her active involvement and fund contributions to groups within the inland cities and on the occasion of her retirement from Pacific Bell after a 23 year career.

Richard Porras, Pac-Bell Vice-president and Master of Ceremonies, reviews the career highlights of Tenorio-Zaneski to the 80 attending guests. “Mary started with Pacific Bell as staff associate in Los Angeles and during her career, held key positions of cost engineer in the Switching Engineering Department, network design engineer with the Central Wire Centers in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside Counties, network engineer, as supervisor of Network Creation Center in Orange County.

She was promoted to senior engineer of Generic Scheduling-Software Planning (one of two positions in the state), interfacing with engineers and vendors for Southern California wire centers. Prior to her last position, Tenorio-Zaneski was project coordinator, implementing high visibility projects and coordination for interdepartmental divisions and vendors.”

Continued on Page 5
The Chavez quadruplets celebrate their fifth birthday at the family home. Picture: The Inland Empire Hispanic News

CHAVEZ QUADRUPLETS CELEBRATE FIFTH BIRTHDAY

On Sunday, February 10, Johnnie, Jonathan, Justin and Joshua, the Chavez quadruplets, celebrated their fifth birthday together for the fifth time, a natural phenomenon for possibly the only quadruplets in the County of San Bernardino! The parents, John and Maria Chavez, are happy (?) that the celebration occurs on a single day, but they are not saying either way.

Johnnie, Jonathan, Justin and Joshua (oldest to youngest) were born on February 12, 1996 and February 10 was the closest weekend for the occasion. The guests included godparents, relatives, friends and many children on this very special day. The home was filled with the aroma of delicious Mexican food and the hosts were busy ensuring that each guest was served. The quads received four sets of gifts, naturally, with the living room filled up in a relatively short time.

According to Maria, the quads are spirited and have very distinct personalities. "Joshua likes sports and has a big heart, Johnnie, the oldest, is more mature and likes to help his dad around the house, Jonathan is very aggressive in everything he does and Justin is very quiet, but I think he is getting a little brattish. If one of them is doing something, the rest want to do the same thing. This is natural for children in any family. Since they were born, my husband and I have been active with them as much as possible. We have also instilled a sense of discipline."

"I get them involved in different sports so they get the idea of teamwork," John said. The couple had also worked with the boys in preparation for kindergarten. "They are ready to go to school," she said.

John and Maria have jointly shared the tasks of raising the boys. "We love our boys so much," she said. John said that Maria was having a baby boy on a single day, but they are not saying either way.

The doctor announced the (good) news, Maria was not carrying triplets, but quadruplets! Maria was interned in the hospital for over five months. In the seventh month, the quadruplets were delivered through a caesarian operation, all boys.

The relatives were thrilled beyond description. Maria said. Since then John Maria have jointly shared the tasks of raising the boys. "We love our boys so much," she said.

According to the San Bernardino Health Department statistics in 1996, a set of quintuplets, two sets of quadruplets, 230 sets of twins and nine sets of triplets were born out of 27,892 births. Maria stated that her husband and her are aware of the responsibility to raise the boys to become good citizens and as the boys grow older, the task becomes harder, but will be there for them.

At present, the boys are into T-ball. John and Maria are seeking a sponsor for the team. Persons interested in sponsoring the team may call at (909) 425-1051.

IMPROVING MINORITY STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY COLLABORATION

As part of its advocacy for improving minority students' educational attainment and increasing its outreach to minority communities, NEA has signed memoranda of agreement with six major national organizations that have the same or similar goals. The organizations are ASPIRA, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Council of La Raza (NCLR), People for the American Way, and National Urban League.

The understanding is that the parties agree to do the following:

- Collaborate on planning major gatherings, such as annual meetings, regional conferences, and selected state conferences and conventions.
- Link Web sites to provide direct access to each other's sites to glean policy and other information.
- Participate as cosponsors of NEA-coordinated public education advocacy town hall meetings in selected communities.
- And, the understanding is that NEA will:
  - Offer through its Public Education Advocacy Office technical assistance, resources, and programs that are devoted to energizing communities in support of children and public education.
  - Encourage and facilitate collaboration between the organizations, state and local affiliates and respective NEA state and local affiliates on public education advocacy initiatives.

NEA, one of the collaborating organizations, represents the interests of both language-minority students and the bilingual education professionals who serve them. NABE is having its 25th Anniversary Conference February 20-24, 2001, in Phoenix, Arizona. If you would like to join other educators, business and government representatives, policy-makers, and community members for the world's largest conference on the education of linguistically and culturally diverse students, write to NABE at 1030 15th Street, NW, Suite 470, Washington, DC 20005-1503, or call its customer service center at (888) 414-2322.

Prepared by Tasha McGuthrie, NEA-HCR
TOBACCO CONTROL IS WORKING IN CALIFORNIA

The American Cancer Society and The American Lung Association have similar missions with a common goal: to save lives.

The great news released from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the California Department of Health Services cites significant drops in lung and bronchus cancer rates among Californians. The reason for the drops? Strong public health efforts by the California Department of Health Services, including its comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program.

We know more needs to be done. California's 14 percent drop must be maintained, and we need to continue the downward spiral of lung and bronchus cancer rates.

President Clinton agrees with us. Citing the CDC report, he called for an increase in money for comprehensive tobacco control and prevention. In his statements, Clinton said "the tobacco companies spend 10 times more to market their products than all 50 states combined are spending on tobacco prevention and cessation. California's efforts demonstrate the progress that can be made when states use comprehensive tobacco control and prevention approaches" recommended by the U.S. Surgeon General.

Lawsuits against the tobacco industry resulted in the Master Settlement Agreement, which is intended to hold the tobacco industry accountable for the disease and death caused by its products. Anger about tobacco settlement dollars into tobacco prevention and control would do just that by reducing industry profits and harm to people.

In the state where the first comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program in the world began, it would be shameful to waste the momentum gained in eliminating the ill effects of tobacco products. Our organizations have been urging Governor Gray Davis to invest at least 20 percent of the state's share of tobacco settlement funds into California's tobacco prevention and control program. Not one dime of the state's share of tobacco settlement funds has been spent on the state's proven, effective tobacco prevention and control program. Still, tobacco ranks as California's number one cause of death, taking more than 40,000 lives annually or about 115 people each day.

Californians have voted consistently to fund tobacco education and cessation programs, yet these efforts cannot be maintained unless Governor Davis allocates a portion of the state's share of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement funds toward the tobacco education and prevention program. Not one dime of the state's share of tobacco settlement funds toward the tobacco education and prevention program has been spent on the California Tobacco Control Program, taxpayers save $3 in medical costs and another $5 in smoking-attributable indirect costs. But the greatest savings will be seen in the number of lives saved.

Our organizations are highly visible in the fight against tobacco products to protect public health. We pledge to continue our opposition to an industry that makes and sells addictive, deadly products. We urge Governor Davis to keep California a leader in the fight against tobacco to save lives, protect the health of Californians and save on health care costs.

In the meantime, not starting to smoke is the best form of prevention. Talk to your kids about the threat of smoking. With your guidance, maybe they won't light up.

For more information, visit the National Institute on Drug Abuse website at www.drugabuse.gov or call the national Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information at 1-800-729-6666.

We've Built a Better Mousetrap...

and the world is beating a path to our door! We're not surprised. People have discovered that the new U.S. government, free portal www.FirstGov.gov is online. Just click and find out what we're up to. www.FirstGov.gov and instantly search more than 27 million U.S. government web pages. You can find the answers fast, if you make your first click www.FirstGov.gov.

Fire Academy Graduation -Among the 32 graduates of the recent Crafton Hills College 52nd Fire Academy, pictured here with their Dalmatian mascot Pongo, were, from front row left to right, Darrell Feuerhahn of Yucaipa, Chris Harrison of Corona, Michael Wadum of Wrightwood, Dave Gurrola of Riverside, and Jim Wagoner of Canyon Lake.

Young Americanos YOUTH PHOTO COMPETITION

Johnathon Gonzalez, a student at Terrace Hills Jr. high School in Colton, shares a proud moment with Jerry Cornahan, California State Director of Farmers Insurance. Jonathon is a Middle School winner of the Farmers Insurance sponsored, Young Americanos photo competition. During a special awards ceremony, Jonathon received a $250 cash scholarship from Farmers Insurance. Jonathon's photo along with 40 other award winning photos can be seen at the Young Americanos photography exhibit now on display at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Photo by Raul Roa

PARENTS; NICOTINE IS A REAL THREAT TO YOUR KIDS

By Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D. Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse

Parents naturally worry about the health and safety of their children. Many parents teach their kids to avoid getting involved with drugs, although sometimes adults forget about the drug most abused by adolescents—nicotine.

Every year, teens continue to light up even though there is strong public awareness about the health hazards of smoking. When you're young, it's hard to think about the consequences of your actions. Kids don't project the smoking today can lead to negative effects in their futures—increased risk of cancer, heart attack, and stroke in adulthood.

Many kids think they'll just try one cigarette or two or three. These young smokers believe that they'll be able to control their habit over time. Young people may experiment with cigars and chewing tobacco, which are also dangerous. Others try bidis, thinking they are a safe alternative to cigarettes. Colorfully packaged with a variety of flavors like cinnamon, orange, and chocolate, these unfiltered cigarettes from India have 28 percent higher nicotine concentration than regular cigarettes.

There is good news—the number of teens who currently smoke has gradually declined since 1996. But there is also bad news—over 4 million youth between the ages of 12 and 17 are smokers. In fact, by the time they leave high school, more than one-third of graduates are active smokers.

Nicotine is a powerfully addictive drug. Once your teen is addicted, it will be very difficult to quit.

The cause of addiction is simple. Nicotine goes straight to the brain. The human brain has circuits that control feelings of pleasure. Dopamine—a brain chemical—contributes to the desire to consume drugs. Nicotine spikes an increase in dopamine.

When your teen smokes, he or she inhales the nicotine. It goes quickly to the brain. In just 10 seconds, the pleasurable effects of smoking reach peak levels. Within a few minutes, the pleasure is gone, and the craving for a cigarette begins a new cycle.

A teen can easily get hooked on nicotine, although it takes much more effort to quit. Many kids think they will be able to quit any time they want to, and some can. But many can't. Like so many smokers, they find it hard to stay away from the drug's effects.

Nicotine addiction is a disease. But it is preventable. NIDA continues to fund innovative research to find the most effective treatment and prevention approaches for adolescents.
BERT CORONA – EL VALIENTE CHICANO
By David Bacon

ANMA also organized braceros. The bracero program brought workers from Mexico into the U.S. from 1940s to the 60s, housing them in huge, fenced-in barracks in rural areas, where they toiled in the fields for the growers for extremely low wages. Leaders like Corona, Ernesto Galarza, Cesar Chavez and others saw an end to the program, since braceros were not only exploited themselves, but used to undermine wages and efforts by farm workers to form unions. ANMA did not just lobby against the program, however, but sought to organize the workers. That idea became a hallmark of Corona’s approach to immigration. After the program was ended, immigrants without papers continued to come to the U.S., driven by hunger and poverty. Conservative unions of the cold war era were very hostile, calling for deportations measures to try to ban them from jobs, saying the unions would come about by creating organization and leaders among grassroots people, in unions and in the neighborhoods. But Corona was not a pure-and-simple unionist. Looking at the huge masses of Mexican immigrants populationing Los Angeles barrios, he saw not just a population excluded from the political mainstream, but a very different future in which their votes would eventually shape the politics of the city and the state. The base of Mexican labor that developed the southwest in the last century could, Corona dreamed, become as important politically as it was economically, acquiring voice, and even more important, power in its own right. In that sense, the growing ranks of Latino political leaders nationally owe a debt to Corona and his co workers, who spent decades fighting to build political organizations to empower Latinos.

Corona became a leader of El Congreso Nacional del Pueblo de Habla Española, and after the war, the Asociacion Nacional Mexicano Americano. Both were leftwing organizations of Mexican immigrants, with close ties to the industrial unions of the CIO. Much of that history is unknown to today’s activists, who see globalization and immigration as issues which have just arrived on the political radar screen. Yet, during a period when he lived in northern California, Corona organized an ANMA chapter among smelter workers employed by the American Smelting and Refining Co. Decades before the current cross-border organizing movement was born, these workers launched sympathy strikes in solidarity with coworkers employed by the same company in Mexico and Latin America.

There is Hope

HELEN CHAVEZ APPOINTED TO VICE PRESIDENT AND MANAGER OF ORANGE COUNTY CITIZENS BUSINESS BANK

D. Linn Wiley, President and Chief Executive Officer of Citizens Business Bank, has announced the appointment of Helen Chavez to the position of Vice President and Manager of the Bank’s Plaza Office located in Orange County.

Ms. Chavez’ professional career incorporates over sixteen years of banking experience with extensive knowledge in administration and commercial lending. Prior to her appointment with Citizens Business Bank, Ms. Chavez was Vice President and Branch Manager of Bank of America. She was located in several offices throughout the Southern California region where she managed the sales in both retail and commercial branches. She was formerly the National Consumer Loan Center Sales and Service Manager for Bank of America.

Ms. Chavez attended Maryknoll College in the Philippines majoring in Psychology and the University of Phoenix majoring in Business Administration. She received the Professional Designation in Bank Management at UCLA. She completed the Series 6/63 training and is a Certified Tax Consultant. Ms. Chavez also serves on the Finance Committee for St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Chino Hills, California.

Citizens Business Bank is the largest bank with headquarters located in the Inland Empire area of California. It is widely recognized for its commitment to its customers and communities, as well as for its strong financial performance. Citizens Business Bank serves businesses, professionals and individuals through 30 conveniently located offices in San Bernardino, Riverside, orange, and Los Angeles counties.
MARY TENORIO-ZANESKI RETIRES FROM PACIFIC BELL

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Mary Tenorio-Zaneski, second from left, as Pacific Bell's Director, External Affairs was involved in the City of San Bernardino Mentoring Program, is receiving a thank you gift from Lilli Ayala, second from right, mañana, at a retirement dinner for the popular executive. Tenorio-Zaneski retired after a 23-year career and recently appointed vice president of E&P&I Division of Com miss, Inc., Corona. At left is Dorothy Sammito, Mentoring Program's assistant coordinator and Rudy Ayala, right, Lilli's brother.

Prior to her retirement, Tenorio-Zaneski held the position of Director, External Affairs, in the central area of San Bernardino County, becoming actively involved in numerous organizations including the Rialto Chamber of Commerce, Fontana Chamber of Commerce, Grand Terrace Chamber of Commerce, San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce, Colton Chamber of Commerce (vice-president), Victorville Chamber of Commerce and the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (board of directors); service groups included the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino, San Bernardino County Hispanic Society, Assistance League of San Bernardino, More Attractive Community Foundation, City of San Bernardino Mentoring Program and Latino Impact. She successfully networked with many economic, social and service groups in the area and disbursed corporate funding to designated non-profit organizations.

During her career, Tenorio-Zaneski continued her education, receiving a BS Degree in Business Administration from the University of Arizona and attended Southern California School of Law for one year.

Elected officials representatives, chambers of commerce, social and service clubs presented Tenorio-Zaneski with resolutions, plaques and gifts for her commitment to the communities within her area and funding of worthwhile groups.

David Bernal, President of Engineering, Furnishing and Installations Division (E&P&I) of Com miss, Inc., Corona, officially announced that Tenorio-Zaneski was recently appointed vice-president of E&P&I, with jurisdictional responsibilities within the United States.

Tenorio-Zaneski, in addressing the guests, stated, "My career has been very diversified, enjoyable and I have overcome many obstacles as a woman and Latina. These challenges have given me the strength and foresight to continually develop my professional skills and I look forward to exciting future ventures."

HELP WANTED!

Heavy Truck collision repair facility seeking experienced Metal & Fiberglass Technicians, Mechanic and Receptionist. For additional information call RICK at (909) 728-1455

COMMUNITY UNITES IN MEMORY OF CHARLES MENA

Over six hundred family members, fellow musicians and friends from throughout the Inland Empire attended a memorial dance/concert fundraising event on February 25, 2001, at the Gents Community Center for the late Charles (Chuck) Mena, a popular and well-known musician in the Inland Empire. Mena, 43, died on December 23, 2000, as a result of illnesses associated with a severe accident that occurred several years ago. The fundraising event began at 12:30 PM and finished at 10:00 PM!

"We started planning for a small jam session fundraiser for Chuck and after more discussion, we felt that he deserved a big community memorial fundraising event," stated Jesse Marquez, chair of the Inland Empire Community Musicians Group. "Chuck was well known, very talented and had the kindest heart and shared everything he owned."

The fundraising planning committee and volunteers involved, the IECMG committee (composed of 18 members), a sound and stage crew composed of 17 volunteers under the direction of Max Prieto and Leonard Colvin, five masters of ceremonies, special speakers Jerry and Monique Almendarez, 15 musical groups, 14 local restaurants, ten music businesses, San Manuel Indian Bingo and Casino, and a myriad of other supportive businesses and individuals.

Mexican food consisting of barbeque beef, beans, Spanish rice, salad, buns and cake was prepared by Pauline Ramos and her volunteer group and every person in the hall was served. The food was donated! "All the funds collected from the event will be turned over to the Mena family to cover the huge medical and funeral expenses," Marquez said. Interviewed at the fundraising event, Mrs. Virginia Mena, mother of Chuck Mena, said, "My son was a good solid person and he loved his music. I loved him so much because he was such a loving person who cared about people. He was always looking after me."

Mena was born in San Bernardino, graduated from Eisenhower High School in Rialto, attended San Bernardino Community College and devoted all his time to music and playing his bass with different musical groups in the Inland Empire. "Our family is very grateful for the support that we have received from his friends and the community. We will never forget their generosity," Mrs. Mena said.
CREATING THE WILL TO SUCCEED

By the year 2025, Hispanic children will make up 25 percent of the school-age population in the U.S. As their numbers grow, Hispanics will continue to become a more significant presence in schools and college classrooms and in our workplaces.

Ensuring that Hispanics achieve educational excellence is in the interest of all Americans. For this reason, academic improvement efforts must not fail Hispanic students.

The President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence has been working for more than a decade to ensure that Hispanic children receive a high-quality education. In 1996, the commission produced its first report, Our Nation on the Faultline: Hispanic American Education. The report documented the exponential demographic growth of Hispanics in America and described both the serious shortcomings of the education system serving Hispanic Americans and the resulting achievement gap. The commission issued a call to action urging local, state, and federal policy makers to take deliberate and immediate steps to improve the educational achievement of Hispanics and thereby pull this country back from a dangerous faultline.

It has been four years since the release of the commission’s initial report. And, although much has been accomplished, the concerted national action necessary to raise the level of educational achievement of Hispanic students has not materialized.

There must be a sense of urgency to close the educational achievement gap for Hispanics. Small incremental improvements will not be enough. Hispanics’ population growth and educational achievement gap require quantum leaps rather than small improvements. Local, state, and national leaders must fully commit themselves to the task.

With this in mind, the commission chose to go beyond the multifaceted recommendations presented in its first report and to lay out a more targeted plan of action. This targeted plan is basically a road map for every sector of society to follow in helping to close the achievement gap between Hispanic students and their classmates by 2010. The commission also challenges the nation to:

Raise the educational performance of all Hispanic students to the same level of achievement as other students in America by the year 2010.

In order to meet this challenge, the commission determined that it will take unprecedented public will and:

- Recognition of the problem
- Proven action that will close the achievement gap
- Replication of successful practices and solutions on a larger scale
- High expectations
- Targeted technical assistance
- Determination that Hispanic children deserve the very best this country has to offer

For further information about this report contact the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans by phone at (202) 401-1411 or by E-mail at white_house.init.hispanic.ed@ed.gov. Prepared by Tasha McGuthrie, NEA-HCR

“Working together with Tree Power.”

Through its Tree Power program and support of such tree planting groups as Keep Riverside Clean & Beautiful, Riverside Public Utilities helps beautify Riverside with thousands of trees in Riverside each year. These trees not only help to beautify the city, but they also help clean our air, reduce soil erosion and provide valuable shade to residents that can help to reduce their energy costs. Through our Tree Power program RPU electric customers can receive cash rebates for purchasing up to five shade trees per year. For more information on the Tree Power shade tree program, contact us today at (909) 826-5485.

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

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The cost of the conference, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch, is $40 or $35 for PWR and NAPE members, students and seniors. To register or for more information contact the Professional Women’s Roundtable at 714-550-7420.

For more information about all of SBA’s programs and services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested two weeks in advance. Contact the U.S. Small Business Administration at 1-888-244-4420 or visit www.sbaonline.org.

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BERT CORONA - EL VALIENTE CHICANO  
By David Bacon

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"To those of us who became active in the immigrant rights movement in the 70s and 80s, Bert was a veteran," says Cathi Tactaquin, director of La Raza Unida Party. "We often saw ourselves as radicals, but really we had a lot to learn. He helped us understand that we needed an alliance with the labor movement, towards which he was both respectful and critical at the same time."

Corona was an unrepentant radical. "If by socialism, he wrote in his autobiography, Memories of Chicano History, "we mean someone who believes that the principal means of production should be regulated by government or by the people in the form of cooperatives, then I would call myself a socialist." But his vision was very indigenous one. "I believe in the American dream," he told Mario Garcia, who collaborated on the book. "or at least in my version of it. I interpret it as a hope and a wish, which has not been completely fulfilled for all Americans such as Latinos and other racial minorities. It's similar to the dream of the Mexican Revolution which also promised freedom, equality and democracy. Clearly, that hasn't been fully achieved. In both cases, they're unfulfilled dreams."

Corona was not an isolated voice on the margin. He helped found the Mexican American Political Association. He worked in the Democratic Party, trying to force it to deal with political aspirations of Mexicanos and workers. He supported the early political careers of Mexicano and African-American politicians, from former Congressman Edward Roybal to the late state Senator Byron Rumford, author of California's Fair Housing Act.

When La Raza Unida Party was organized, Munoz and others wanted Corona to become one of its leaders. "But he was more focused on organizing the undocumented, whom he saw as the most oppressed."

When Lopez himself became the target of "B-1 Bob" Dorman and the Republican right, after Dorman's defeat the hands of Loretta Sanchez in Orange County, Bert told me: "Don't leave. Stay and fight." Dorman, one of the most conservative members of Congress, and a longtime legislative advocate for armaments manufacturers, alleged that Lopez and the Hermandad Mexicana had registered non-citizens to vote. The Los Angeles Times put the subsequent investigations on its front page day after day. In the end, Lopez was vindicated. But there was no doubt about the message of the Orange County election, and Dorman did indeed have something to fear:

"Sanchez's career in Congress is living proof of the growing power of the Latino vote."

"That was typical of Bert," says Eliseo Medina, a former UFW leader who today is vice-president of the Service Employees International Union. "He didn't just put his finger up to see which way the wind was blowing. He took a principled stand and stuck to it."

Another veteran of the farm labor wars, Alfredo Figueroa, calls Corona "a father of the modern-day Chicano movement." Figueroa summed up Corona's life in Mexican style, writing a corrido on hearing of his death. It ends with these verses:

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The U.S. government never offered you its hand
Or appreciated the efforts
Of this valiant Chicano.

When President Pro Tempore, John Burton announced that the Senate Rules Committee has extended the Senate Select Committee on the Alameda Corridor East through November 30, 2002 and re-appointed Senator Nell Soto (D-Ontario) to serve on the committee, which she spearheaded while in the Assembly.

"I'm very excited to be able to resume my strong commitment to the Alameda Corridor East," reveals Senator Soto. "This project is very crucial to the Inland Empire with the expected boom in railroad traffic directly impacting businesses and employment. Without major overhauls of railroad crossings, trains will block traffic and wreak havoc on commuters and emergency service providers."

The Senate Select Committee on the Alameda Corridor East will continue work on easing traffic delays, that will increase with the rise in international trade on the Alameda Corridor East (A.C.E.) - which extends 52 miles east from the Redondo Junction in Los Angeles County to the Rialto Junction in San Bernardino County.

"I'm extremely pleased that Senator Soto will continue her work on the Alameda Corridor East," says Paul M. Eaton, Mayor of Montclair. "She's been so active and so concerned about this project that she organized city council leaders in the Inland Empire to form an Ad hoc Committee that will focus exclusively on the needs of the Inland Empire."

The Inland Empire Ad hoc Committee is made up of representatives from cities along the railroad lines and is working closely with the San Bernardino Associated Governments.
STATE GRANT TO HELP UCR ORANGE COUNTY OUTREACH PROGRAMS CELEBRATE CESAR CHAVEZ

A state grant of more than $17,600 will fund a community outreach effort based at the University of California, Riverside, recognizing the life and work of the farm workers rights advocate Cesar Chavez.

The effort is spearheaded by the University Eastside Community Collaborative (UECC) AmeriCorps project with the Office of Governmental and Community Relations at UCR. It will include a variety of short- and long-term activities that reinforce Chavez' philosophy of service to others.

Activities will include multicultural and fine arts programs for needy children and families, a celebration and concert series promoting nonviolence, and several children's programs that teach nonviolent expression through art. The activities will take place in the basement of the Cesar Chavez community center at the Bobby Bonds Sports Park on University Avenue in Riverside. The renovated space will be known as the "UECC Art Zone."

The effort is supported by a $17,652 grant from the California Commission on Improving Life Through Service, which awarded grants at Gov. Gray Davis' recommendation, for efforts that celebrate Chavez, the late advocate for farm worker rights. The state legislature recently declared Chavez' birthday, March 31, a state holiday.

Those who worked in partnership with the UECC AmeriCorps project proposal included the City of Riverside Department of Parks and Recreation, the Riverside Unified School District, and the UCR College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

Some of the activities the UECC AmeriCorps project will undertake include:

- Paying for UCR graduate students in the arts to teach free art courses for children and families.
- Funding a one day community concert and celebration in honor of Cesar Chavez with music, entertainment, and showcased artwork from the Latin American Art Center.
- Creating a mural honoring peace and non-violent expression, which children can paint as a way of expressing themselves through art.
- More information, call Lucia Ortega, director of the UECC AmeriCorps Project at the UCR Office of Government and Community Relations, (909) 787-7679, or Max Neiman, professor of political science at the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at UCR, (909) 787-4693.
- Contacts at cooperating agencies include Terry Nielsen, director of the Riverside Parks and Recreation Department at (909) 715-3459; and Josefina Canchola, Program Manager for Community Projects at the Riverside Unified School District, (909) 788-1021.

ANGELICA HURTADO NAMED DISTINGUISHED BILINGUAL TEACHER

While being off-track, Hurtado offers parent workshops on reading readiness and early literacy in both English and Spanish. She is a member of the International Reading Association and author of six-week English Language Development Lesson Plans for First Grade New Teachers.

Her participation in off-school activities included a myriad of workshops, commission, leadership teams and as master teacher for college students.

Ted Alejandre, principal of Ramona-Alessandro School, stated that Hurtado is deserving of the award. "I am extremely pleased that CABE recognized Hurtado's efforts on behalf of the school's bilingual students. She is an excellent teacher that provides so much for our students and due to her efforts, our students have made extensive progress."

Hurtado received a BA in Liberal Studies, Reading Certificate and Clear Teaching Credentials from the University of California Riverside and a State Clear Bilingual Certificate of Competence.

Editor's note: Ramona-Alessandro School in the recent API, in a ranking of 1 to 10, received a base of 643 points and rank of 5. On the similar school ranking of 100 state schools, in a ranking of 1 to 10, the local school received the rank of 10. The school recently received $51,605 for the Governor's Performance Award meeting a state target in all areas and an additional $5,000 on the Governor's Reading Award.

WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2001
STUDENT UNION EVENTS CENTER
California State University, San Bernardino
KEYNOTE ADDRESS
BY GLORIA ANZALDÚA
4:00-5:30 PM
READING BY GLORIA ANZALDÚ
8:00 PM

Gloria Anzaldúa, a Chicana native of Texas, explores in prose, poetry and essays the condition of Chicanos in Anglo culture, women in Latino culture and lesbians in a straight world. She is co-editor of the award-winning THIS BRIDGE CALLED MY BACK: WRITINGS BY RACIAL WOMEN OF COLOR, author of Borderlands & La Frontera. The New Mestiza and editor of MAKING FACE, MAKING SOUL, HACIENDO CARAS: CREATIVE AND CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES BY WOMEN OF COLOR Anzaldúa is a powerful voice in contemporary literature, addressing cultural, sexual, and spiritual identity, racism, feminism and multilingual, multicultural literacy.

CONFERENCE EVENT ARE FREE TO PUBLIC
A new national study released today by the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute (TRPI) reveals the facts of a burgeoning Latino middle class and its prospects for future growth—defined as income available to Latinos that are mostly poor, uneducated and foreign-born.

The Latino middle class grew at a whole 31% over the past 20 years. This is a rate three times higher than among non-Hispanic whites. The study was conducted by two nationally known scholars: Dr. Frank D. Bean, professor of Sociology at the University of California, Irvine and Dr. Stephen J. Trejo, Associate Professor of Economics University of Texas at Austin.

"Latin economic progress has been significant," said TRPI President, Harry Pachon, Ph.D. "Too often, we overlook this ever increasing segment of the Hispanic community."

The study also provides greater insight into this booming demographic. Growth in middle-class households was concentrated among U.S.-born Latinos. In comparison, the number of poor, foreign-born Latino households has increased almost threefold from 1979 to 1998. Measuring discretionary income among the Latino middle-class was concentrated among the U.S.-born. In comparison, the number of poor, foreign-born Latino households has increased almost threefold from 1979 to 1998. Still, a substantial income gap remains between Latino middle-class and all U.S. households. That gap widened from about $12,000 in 1976 to more than $16,000 in 1998, and nearly the same rate of growth of Anglo households that achieved middle-class status, but only 35% of all Latino households had done the same.

"Census Bureau study states this to a large growth in poverty households; a group the institution defines as having an annual household income under $20,000. Poverty households grew from 1.2 million in 1979 to 2.6 million households in 1998."

**CESAR CHAVEZ BIRTHDAY EVENT SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 30**

A committee composed of representatives of AAAS, Inland Empire Hispanic News, Libreria Del Pueblo, San Bernardino School District, Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino, Congressman Joe Baca, Senator Nell Soto, Assemblypersons John Longville and Anna Caballero, alumna and other educational organizations have planned a community breakfast to celebrate the life of Cesar Chavez on Friday, March 30, 2001, at 8:00 AM at the Centro Cultural Community Center, 1462 E. Art Townsend Drive, San Bernardino.

"Cesar Chavez was a role model for all of us of Hispanic descent and we must keep his spirit and deeds alive as a remembrance to us and our younger generation."

**RIVERSIDE WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB HOLDS FIRST INSTALLATION/HONORS BANQUET**

Pictured above are the founding members of the Riverside Women's Democratic Club, who were honored at the First Annual Installation/Honors Banquet held on February 2 at the Holiday Inn Select, Riverside. Left to right: June Forman (representative by her daughter, Rebecca), Mary Curtin, Grace Stocum, Jane Block, Jane Carney and Dr. Jacqueline Mimms. Photo By IEHN

Mary Lou Morales introduced Art Torres, chair of the California Democratic Party and co-chair Democratic Party's progress in California and the need to continue registering voters and organizing local political groups in the state. He encouraged local people to get involved in the forthcoming elections.

"I want to encourage any high school student in the 10th or 11th grade in my Assembly District who is interested in Chicano history and culture, wants to be active in civic organizing and has college aspirations to apply for entrance among others. The emphasis was to attract women to become politically active."

Several founding members ran for offices; other members were part of the State Democratic Central Committee; and several were delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

Basic tenets included women's rights, civil rights, workers rights, child care, education including political education and the environment.

The first November, 1997 meeting attracted 80 women, which approved the bylaws and elected the first slate of officers: President Jacqueline Mimms, Vice President Mary Curtin, Recording Secretary Mary Lou Morales, Corresponding Secretary Jesse Myers and Financial Officer Grace Stocum.

The WDC honored the founding members for their initiative in organizing the political group and were presented with a plaque and gifts.

Newly appointed Superior Court Judge Joe Hernandez installed the new offices for 2001-2002: Mary Lou Morales, President; Ana Monagas, Vice President; Leeanne Bradley, Recording Secretary; Jean Raitstacher, Corresponding Secretary and Dr. Lulamae Cemants, Financial Officer.

**ASSEMBLYMEMBER JOHN LONGVILLE ANNOUNCES APPLICATIONS WANTED FOR CHICANO/LATINO YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT CONFERENCE**

Applicants should apply in Spanish and are accepted.

"I want to encourage any high school student in the 10th or 11th grade in my Assembly District who is interested in Chicano history and culture, wants to be active in civic organizing and has college aspirations to apply for entrance in CILYLP Summer Leadership Conference."

"For applications, you can call or write my District Director Robert Aquino at 201 North E. Street, Suite 201, San Bernardino, CA 92401 or (909) 388-1413. For more information, you can also contact the Chicano/Latino Youth Leadership Project at (916) 446-1640, 1-888-MY-CLYLP. clylp@ael.com." Assemblymember Longville concluded.
NBC4 NAMES REBECCA NIETO SENIOR PRODUCER FOR COMMUNITY COVERAGE

Rebecca Nieto has been named Senior Producer for Community Coverage, it was announced today by Nancy Bauer Gonzales, VP/News Director, to whom she will report. The newly created position is an important element of the station’s innovative approach to community-based news coverage, local programming and outreach to typically underrepresented communities.

In her new position, Nieto will be responsible for weaving the station into the fabric and the issues of our Southland communities. “We are moving in a whole new direction in our approach to community involvement,” said Bauer Gonzales. “Our focus now will emphasize how our news and local programming can establish a more meaningful agenda that can empower our viewers to make decisions about matters they care about. In January, we launched ‘NBC4 Listens,’ a series of meetings in our communities to help us ascertain what is important to the people who live here. Rebecca is the perfect choice for this position. Her extensive background in both news and local community outreach programs make her uniquely qualified for this new position,” added Bauer Gonzales.

In addition to “NBC4 Listens,” the station’s focus will include month-long cultural celebrations, local television specials inspired by community issues/events and stand-alone programs, dovetailing with news coverage.

Additional project plans include local town hall meetings and remote broadcasts centering on news stories that have significant impact on the community.

Nieto has been the producer of NBC4’s Emmy Award-winning “Channel 4 News” at 4PM since February, 1998. In addition, she was responsible for creating a partnership with local firefighters, bringing the “Operation Fire Safe” program to the station. She also spearheaded the station’s “Emergency Ready” outreach program. The project helped educate the community about the 911 system and celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Southland paramedics and the services provided by other emergency response teams.

Nieto is actively involved in the community and often serves as a speaker for community-based groups and non-profit organizations. She is an active member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

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THERE IS A SAYING IN SPANISH, “HABLANDO SE ENTIENDE LA GENTE.” LET’S TALK...

California’s electricity prices are higher now than they’ve ever been. That’s because supplies are tight and there are no price controls in the wholesale market. Unfortunately, Southern California Edison was forced to buy your electricity from this market - for far more than we’re allowed to charge.

To help cover some of these high costs, the California Public Utilities Commission has approved a temporary one-cent surcharge for every kilowatt-hour you use. It will be added to your bill through the 5th of April. This surcharge equals about $5 a month for average residential customers.

The good news is the surcharge does not apply to customers currently on the California Alternate Rate for Energy (CARE) program. CARE offers income-qualified residential customers a 15% discount on their electric service. If you think you may qualify, fill out the application included in this month’s bill and start saving money right away.

Everyone can enjoy the savings by saving energy. Adjust your thermostat to 68 degrees. Reduce the use of major appliances. In addition, unplug all electronic equipment that is not in use.

Meanwhile, Southern California Edison continues to work urgently with state and federal authorities to develop effective solutions that will allow us to continue serving our customers at affordable and reasonable rates.

The good news is the surcharge does not apply to customers currently on the California Alternate Rate for Energy (CARE) program. CARE offers income-qualified residential customers

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NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/QUOTATIONS

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21685 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P9596-23</td>
<td>Rule 2202-On-Road Motor Vehicle Mitigation-Set aside Air Quality Investment Program</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/29/01</td>
<td>Kathryn Higgins (909) 396-3303</td>
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<tr>
<td>P2001-28</td>
<td>Medical Services Provider</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/30/01</td>
<td>William Johnson (909) 396-2038</td>
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<tr>
<td>P2001-29</td>
<td>Occupational Health Services</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>4/06/01</td>
<td>William Johnson (909) 396-2038</td>
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<tr>
<td>P2001-31</td>
<td>Technical Advisor Services to the MSRC in Support of the AB 2766 Discretionary Fund Program</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/20/01</td>
<td>Mel Salas (909) 396-2038</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2001-06</td>
<td>Business Computer Hardware Upgrade</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/20/01</td>
<td>Mark Heringger</td>
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<td>Q2001-07</td>
<td>Inductively Coupled Plasmas mass Spectrometer System</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/16/01</td>
<td>Steve Barkoo (909) 396-2171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2001-08</td>
<td>Polared Light Microscope System</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/16/01</td>
<td>Corazon B Choa (909) 396-2171</td>
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<td>Q2001-09</td>
<td>Digital Camera for a Polared Light Microscope System</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/16/01</td>
<td>Corazon B Choa (909) 396-2171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2001-12</td>
<td>Automated Gas Chromatograph System for Speciation &amp; Measurement of Ambient Volatile Organic Compounds</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3/16/01</td>
<td>Steve Barkoo (909) 396-2171</td>
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PERSONS ATTENDING THE BIDDERS' CONFERENCE SHOULD CONFIRM THEIR ATTENDANCE BY CALLING THE CONTACT PERSON. BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM ANYONE NOT ATTENDING THE MANDATORY BIDDERS' CONFERENCE.

The RFP/RFQ may be obtained through the Internet at:
http://www.aqmd.gov/rfp/

You have questions or would like a copy of the RFP/RFQ mailed to you, telephone the contact person.

It is the policy of the AQMD to ensure that all businesses including minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, disabled veteran-owned businesses and small businesses have a fair and equitable opportunity to compete for and participate in AQMD contracts.