The Institute for Social Justice and Rose Institute's Latino Studies Project announced plans for the Latino State-wide Summit on Education Reform to be held at Claremont McKenna College on January 11-12, 1991.

According to Dr. Amando Navarro, Institute Director, the Latinos are, as yet, facing a devastating educational crisis in which young Latinos are still not achieving their highest potential, in terms of career goals, that is available to mainstream American and worse still, the Latino youth is one of two major minority groups that have the highest dropout rate throughout the nation. "Educating our children is a continuous struggle for all of us and it is essential that we consolidate our educational expertise to discuss the progress that has been made," Dr. Navarro stated in an interview. "However, more importantly, we have to analyze the educational barriers that we, as parents and professionals, are facing, (and that our youth are facing) and develop those strategies that are necessary to tear down those barriers, whether they be real or imaginary."

He further stated that an educational summit of this magnitude is unique in California which to his knowledge, has never been duplicated.

"The Summit's agenda will include five major levels of education to be discussed: primary, secondary, adult vocational training, college colleges and four year colleges. Scheduled for the Summit are a series of panels which will address the five areas of education, and will include panelists that are expertise in those areas. Every highly recognized Hispanic educator in the State of California has been invited. The invitation list includes college presidents, educational administrators, superintendents, college professors, school board members and individuals involved in the educational process.

There will be three major keynote addresses on education. Secretary of Education Lauro Cavazos, State Superintendent of Education Bill Honig and Assemblyman John Vassconcellos have been invited to address the Summit.

As outlined by Dr. Navarro, the following goals will be developed on the second day of the Summit: 1) formulate a blueprint of educational reform for Latinos; 2) form a broad-based coalition on education reform; 3) strengthen Affirmative Action efforts at all levels, and 4) initiate a campaign of parental empowerment. Dr. Navarro concluded, "This Summit is unique, in that the educators that will be present will be able to input their total educational expertise to enhance a realistic picture of the present education climate in California relative to Hispanics and make recommendations for the development of objectives to meet the Summit goals."

Persons may call the Institute for Social Justice at (714) 888-6070 for further information or reservations.

Abridellected
President of Colton School Board

By: Rev. Miguel Ceja, Associate Pastor, St. Catherine's Church, Rialto

This article was written exclusively for the Inland Empire Hispanic News.

Virgilio Elizondo, who has been recognized as the major theologian of the Mexican-American culture, claims that two Mexican-American celebrations stand out as the most universal: the collective celebration of the fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the family celebration of the baptisms of an infant. The two celebrations are interrelated, he claims, in the identification of the people as la raza as a cultural and religious entity.

Because of the historical process that has been taking place over the past four hundred years and continues today, the cultural elements in the Mexican-American identity cannot be fully separated from the religious elements. The gospel and the culture are not fully identified with each other, but they cannot be fully separated. The gospel has been transforming the culture and the culture has been reactualizing the gospel through its own vital expressions. If Ash Wednesday stresses the earthly belongings and the present suffering of the people, and Good Friday marks their collective struggles and death, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe shouts out with joy the proclamation that a new dawn is breaking: the collective resurrection of a new people. Out of their own earth - Tepeyac - and in continuity with the life of their ancestors, a new mother emerges, pregnant with new life. She is not a goddess, Virgilio claims, but "the new woman from whom the new humanity will be born, la raza cosmica de las Americas." She is herself the prototype of the new creation. She is la Morenita. She combines opposing forces so that in a creative way new life, not destruction, will emerge. December 12 is celebrated, as Virgilio puts it, "the beginning of the new human-divine adventure."

It is important to remember that flowers were the sign that la Morenita gave to prove that she was God's messenger. In ancient and contemporary Mexican culture, flowers are a sign of new existence. From the seeds that fall to earth are watered by the heavenly dew, and fertilized by the ashes and remains of previous life, new life comes forth. The resurrection of Christ was the beginning of new Christian people.
As we have in the past. Our school district is confronted with critical issues as a result of expanded student enrollments. Our priorities should be to review critical issues and determine the feasibility of potential solutions. Consideration should be given to increase our school sites as a result of the increase in student numbers. Also, it is essential that we continue to seriously consider the building of an administration center due to the outgrowth of our present site."

"However, I feel certain that the school board, administration and school staffs will continue the excellent communication that has existed for these many years."

Mr. Abril is a product of the school system, graduating from Colton High School in 1950 and enlisting in the Navy in the same year, serving in the Korean conflict until his naval discharge in 1954. He worked for Griffin Wheel Company for 25 years until the business was moved to Ohio. He later worked as an insurance agent for two years and presently is employed by the San Bernardino County's Coroner Office.

Mr. Abril and his wife Hortensia have been married for 35 years. They have 6 children and 16 grandchildren.

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**December 10 - 15**

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**Inland Empire Hispanic News**

**Community**

**Wednesday, December 12, 1990**

**Norton A.F.B. Reservists Guaranteed Re-Employment after Desert Shield Duty**

NORTON AFB, Calif. - Air Force Reservists called to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield are guaranteed certain re-employment and legal rights by federal legislation dating from 1940.

The Veterans' Re-employment Rights Law gives Reservists the right to time off from civilian jobs to fulfill military obligations. It also protects them from discharge or discrimination because of those obligations.

When called for active duty, Reservists are not required to ask for a leave of absence, but need to notify their employer.

"They can't just disappear from their job," Air Force Reserve officials said. The Veterans' Re-employment Rights law applies to federal, state and local governments and to private employers, regardless of organizational size.

It protects any Reservist who gives up a civilian job to enter active duty, voluntarily or involuntarily, in peace-time or wartime.

Returning veterans are entitled to the level of job, the seniority, status and rate of pay they would have attained if they had stayed continuously employed instead of serving on active duty.

The law also gives them a six month period of special protection against being discharged without cause.

An employer who fires a veteran during that period must prove the veteran was guilty of misconduct which would have caused the person to be fired even if the person hadn't been a veteran.

Returning veterans must meet certain eligibility requirements to regain their former jobs:

* The job that was held must have been an "other than temporary" job.
* The veteran must have left the job to enter active duty.
* The active duty period must be no longer than four years. However, it can be up to five years if the period beyond the four years in any election at the request and for the convenience of the federal government.
* Release from active duty must be under honorable conditions.
* Application for re-employment with the preservice employer must be within 90 days after release from active duty, or 31 days if called under Title 10, U.S. Code 673b.

The Veteran's Employment and Training Service of the Labor Department is responsible for enforcing the Veterans' Re-employment Law. More information is available from the VETS national office, at (202) 523-8611.

**City Elective Post Nomination Period Now Open**

City Clerk Rachel Krasney announced today that the nomination period for elective posts in four Council wards and three citywide offices will open on Thursday, December 6, 1990, and close at noon on Thursday, December 27, 1990.

Council seats up for election in 1991 are those in the Third, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Wards, and citywide offices up for election are those of the City Attorney, City Clerk, and City Treasurer. The primary election will take place on March 5, 1991. If a run-off election is required, the general election will take place on May 7, 1991.

Candidates interested in taking out nomination papers for any of the elective posts should contact the City Clerk's Office located on the second floor of City Hall, 300 North "D" Street, San Bernardino. Those interested in taking out nomination papers are encouraged to call the City Clerk's Office, at 384-5102, to schedule an appointment. The office is open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Moreno Valley Hispanic Chamber Founded

Maria De La Cobas is the President of the Moreno Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the most recently organized Hispanic business group in the Inland Empire.

In an exclusive interview, Ms. De La Cobas described how she became a member of the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce and discussed with Chamber officials about the feasibility of inviting the Hispanic business persons in the area to become members. Lacking the official's interest in expanding their membership, Ms. De La Cobas decided that Hispanics (businesses) had to be organized and researching city files and visiting the business area, she identified approximately 25 Hispanic businesspersons.

She invited the businesspersons to a meeting to determine the interest in organizing a business group. The response was positive and as a result, the meeting became the organizational nucleus for the new Hispanic Chamber. The officers elected at the meeting were Roy Olivares as Vice-President, Dolores Kotts, as Secretary and Lisa De La Galicia as Treasurer.

Ms. De La Cobas stated that Moreno Valley has 125,000 residents living within the city limits and approximately 30% (or 37,500) are Hispanics! She further stated that the area's business and housing development and increase in population has the potential for the Hispanic Chamber to be the most viable and progressive group in the community.

The short goal for the chamber, said Ms. De La Cobas, is to develop a cohesive group that will network within the Hispanic business community; identify economic resources that will be available to the Chamber member's needs, and: and assertively reinforce the expansion of Hispanic businesses.

Ms. De La Cobas is an account executive with KCAL AM radio station in Redlands. The first business mixer is planned at the Casa Isabel Restaurant, corner of Pigeon Pass and Ironwood in Moreno Valley on December 18 from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. (east of 60, off on Fredericks, left to Ironwood).

Holiday Traditions

Christmas (Dec. 25): The first Christmas took place in a stable, with shepherds and farm animals honoring the birth of Jesus Christ. It's remarkable that a holiday with such humble roots could evolve into the time of hustle and rush we know today. Yet, in the flurry of shopping for perfect presents, devising the most opulent decorations, and preparing the richest foods, we often lose sight of the simple beauty that characterized the first Christmas.

"Simple" certainly characterized the Pilgrim settlers' Christmases: "Spartan" is a better term. The Pilgrims held the day to be strictly religious. And besides, no one has actually proved that Jesus' birth took place on Dec. 25th. All in all, the Pilgrims took a dim view of other settlers' noisy revelry harking back to British yuletide celebrations. Pilgrims consecrated Christmas Day to full labor; the traditional mincemeat pie was forbidden. In their zeal to celebrate, Pilgrim homemakers baked the pies anyway, but disguised them in odd-shaped pans.

French settlers feted the holiday with a dinner after midnight services, call a reveillon. Today, their descendants prepare a celebrated Christmas cake in the shape of a yule log: the buche de Noel. Festooned with almond-paste trim, topped with blazing white candles, symbolizing purity. And we have German settlers to thank for introducing the custom.

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Globalizationof Garment Industry = Labor Standards Decline

RIVERSIDE - Rapid globalization of the garment industry is producing a decline in labor standards in the United States and abroad, sociologist Edna Bonacich has found in research at the University of California, Riverside.

Sweatshops that had largely disappeared in the United States by the mid-twentieth century are reemerging in this country as a result of increasing internationalization of the industry, she said.

The practice is the outgrowth of fierce competition for the American market, particularly from Asian and Latin American countries, said Bonacich. The situation has led some U.S. clothing manufacturers to turn to low-cost domestic subcontractors whose shops, it turns out, are often typified by illegally low wages, home work, child labor violations, and unsanitary working conditions, said Bonacich.

Existence of sweatshops is particularly pronounced in the key Southern California manufacturing center, she said, where garment makers rely heavily on immigrant labor that is not only plentiful, but often easily exploited.

Bonacich has conducted extensive studies of the garment industry, focusing on finance, immigrant labor, U.S. labor contractors and manufacturers, and subcontractors, particularly in the Los Angeles nucleus.

She has just been awarded a $70,000 grant under the University of California Pacific Rim Research Program to study the globalization of the industry. In collaboration with Lucie Cheng of UCLA, Bonacich is examining the flow of capital, labor, and trade in the Pacific Rim garment industry to determine precisely how the industry is being restructured, and what is the impact on the U.S. industry.

"We are appalled at labor conditions in some of the shops in Los Angeles and around the world," said Bonacich.

"Women are especially likely to be employed by these firms. Our project is concerned with understanding what is creating these dehumanizing conditions and what can be done to prevent them."
Mary Ann Gonzales works for Betterment of Hispanics

By Roy Saldana

"I feel successful if I am able to put in the maximum energy into projects that I am working on. For me, it's a matter of giving your all in any one situation," said Mary Ann Gonzales, the energetic and diminutive administrative assistant to the director of the Institute for Social Justice in San Bernardino, a community based organization that for several decades has fostered social justice and provided the leadership and technical assistance in the areas of social and economic issues.

Mrs. Gonzales indicated that she continually sees goals for herself, aggressively strives to accomplish the goals and derives great satisfaction when she attains them. She says, "I like to win." It's not uncommon for men to become alarmed when they hear this petite woman assert her beliefs. "In our culture there are expectations. She also explained that being half Anglo and half Hispanic, I could see the coin from both sides, that there were positives and negatives in both cultures," Mrs. Gonzales said.

Mrs. Gonzales gives the impression of having a highly analytical mind making her capable to respond to a variety of circumstances at a moment's notice.

The death of her mother left Mrs. Gonzales to be raised by her grandmother and father in Barstow. When she was a young girl, her grandmother often spoke to her about the revolution, culture and traditions of Mexico.

"My grandmother was a role model for me. She was a very compassionate person, feeding people and taking them in when necessary. She also explained to me that being half Anglo and half Hispanic, I could see the coin from both sides, that there were positives and negatives in both cultures," Mrs. Gonzales said.

GENTS: Christmas dinner for needy

The Gents Organization, a well-known community-based group, is planning a Christmas Day dinner for persons who would not, otherwise, be able to enjoy a meal at this time of year. In previous years, the Gents would planirgra Christmas Day dinner for families in need.

Mrs. Gonzales was attending Barstow College when she got married prior to attaining her degree. In order to supplement the family income, she worked as a physical educational instructor for St. Joseph Catholic School in Barstow for about a year and a half and thereafter drove a bus for six years for the Barstow Unified School District.

Mrs. Gonzales was recruited to work for the Institute for Social Justice in 1987 as a result of her five years of community work in Barstow. Her position at the Institute gives her great satisfaction and a feeling of purpose.

Mrs. Gonzales was attending Barstow College when she got married prior to attaining her degree. In order to supplement the family income, she worked as a physical educational instructor for St. Joseph Catholic School in Barstow for about a year and a half and thereafter drove a bus for six years for the Barstow Unified School District.

"I was a jack-of-all-trades, and made of money, she said.

Mrs. Gonzales was recruited to work for the Institute for Social Justice in 1987 as a result of her five years of community work in Barstow. Her position at the Institute gives her great satisfaction and a feeling of purpose.

"I like it because I feel like I have a niche, I have this sense of accomplishment because the Institute's goal is helping people in need and working for the betterment of the Hispanic at every level. However, our performance (the Institute's) is very hard to measure. I feel we do a good job, but there is so much work to do. Conversely, when I worked at the other places I never had this feeling."

She enjoys being a part of the team with Dr. Navarro, Executive Director and Jesse Valenzuela, Research Specialist. "We enjoy it when times are good. When they are bad we come to gether and try to find a way out of it," she said. She commutes on a daily basis from Barstow to the office in San Bernardino.

Mrs. Gonzales feels that the benefits to having women in the work force is that men learn it is acceptable to be sensitive.

Another woman who had a large influence in Mrs. Gonzales' life was a nun, Sister Rosa Maria Zarate. She taught classes on liberation theology at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

"She brought you from a stage of passivity and conformity, showing that change isn't going to happen unless you do something about it," said Mrs. Gonzales.

Mrs. Gonzales has five children, Roland Joseph, 19; Andrea, 18; April, 17; Ryan, 14 and Christopher Thomas, 10. She spends as much time as possible with them, going to the park, mall or movies.

Mrs. Gonzales believes that the Institute for Social Justice is a vehicle for change in the Latino community. She wants to be a part of that change but believes it is up to people.

"ISJ can only give the community the tools to work with, but it's up to the people to apply those tools. She says, "We no longer want to be referred as the sleeping giant."

Her vision for the future is for the Latino community to be able to have true empowerment and equal representation in the political and economic environment.

Dr. Armando Navarro, Director, Institute for Social Justice, states that Continued on Page 6
Richardson PREP HI nominated as National Distinguished School

Richardson PREP HI Middle School in the San Bernardino City Unified School District is one of 10 schools from California to be nominated to apply for National Distinguished School status in the 1990-91 Secondary School Recognition Program. Richardson, last year, was named a California Distinguished School.

Principal, Edith Krache, said, "Whether the school wins or not, it is an honor just be have been asked to participate."

Krache and her staff are preparing their application packet for submission this month to Washington, D.C. Judging will be by a national panel of educators, parents, school board members, elected officials, the press, and medical professionals. The winning entries will be announced in May and a recognition ceremony will be held in Washington in September 1991.

Judging will be based on several factors, including strong leadership of the school, effective working relationships among the school, parents and the community, Krache says. The curriculum and instruction will be looked at along with teaching environment, how staff is evaluated, discipline policies, how the school is fostering the development of sound character, democratic values, ethics and good behavior in its students.

Share the holidays with someone less fortunate

If you'll be sharing your holidays with friends and relatives, count yourself lucky. You can make the holiday season even more special by welcoming a newcomer into your home, perhaps someone less fortunate than you. A variety of local organizations and associations can help you locate prospective holiday guests. First, try contacting a church nearby. They will probably be happy to search for potential holiday guests. If a church is not willing to help, try contacting another church nearby.

Special message for the UCR Cooperative Extension and the Inland Empire Hispanic News.

Homeless Christmas Party Set

The Community Service Department, County of San Bernardino, has scheduled a Christmas Party for the homeless individuals on Tuesday, December 18, 1990, at 2:00 P.M. Santa Claus will be visiting the Party.

The Department is soliciting clothing, jackets, shoes, socks, toys and monetary donations, and including food, through December 17, 1990. The Tax deductible contribution may be send or delivered directly to Community Service Department, 686 East Mill Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0610.

For further information, contact Delia Mendoza at (714) 387-3310 or Carolyn Debevec at (714) 387-2309.

Personal Profile - Gonzales - Cont from page 5

Mary Ann is a person who has a strong and sincere commitment for the betterment of the Hispanic people and its community. She is highly intelligent, very analytical and articulate, in addition to being a hard worker. Her total experience in the area of community involvement and organizational structuring is invaluable. The Institute is fortunate to have a staff person of her caliber. The community is the beneficiary of her talent.
opportunities
Inland Empire Hispanic News
Wednesday, December 12, 1990

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Season's Greetings from the INLAND EMPIRE HISPANIC NEWS

Our Lady of Guadalupe - Continued from page 1

uniting and transcending natural peoples without destroying them. Something similar happened at Guadalupe. Mexicans discovered that they were a new people, reborn.

On the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the people come together early in the morning to celebrate the irruption of new life - the dawn of a new humanity. This is the Easter sunrise service of the people. Before the first rays of the sun, they come together in song to place the La Morenita which is the proclamation of new life. It is the springtime of Tepeyac that take place of the Easterlilies of Western Christianity.

Guadalupe was also a Pentecost; it opened the way to true dialogue between Europeans and Mexican Indians. It was a symbol of unity and above their many and serious diversities. It marked the beginning of the fusion of two mother cultures - the Spanish and the Mexican Indian - which in turn gave birth to a mestizo culture. La Morenita became the "mother of all the inhabitants of this land." Individuals who found themselves divided and segregated on the basis of human barriers external differences - discovered that they were united in something far more important than what divided them: a common mother. Virgilio claims that Mexico is a very divided nation, and that there is no doubt to anyone working with Mexican-Americans in the U.S.A. that they constitute a very divided people. But there is likewise "a very strong unity and spirit of familia among this divided people."

Virgilio adds that the symbolism of Guadalupe gives the basis for a much deeper unity that does any class-struggle model. The power of Guadalupe is that it signals a common motherhood for all the inhabitants of the land. As new models of society are proposed and begin to be worked out, as long as they lead to or allow some individuals to think of themselves as inferior and others as superior, the conviction of a fellowship of equals under a common mother cannot find realization. Conversely, when individuals have become aware of their basic equality and see that it is not embodied in their society, they will work and struggle to bring about new life-styles more reflective of the fundamental reality that all are children of the same mother.

La Morenita is found not only in the basilica in Mexico City but in numberless shrines throughout the Americas, in the homes of millions of persons, on medals around the necks of men, women, and children, tattooed on the arms and chests of cholas and pachucos, sung about in pop songs, painted on the wall of barrios from California to Texas. Our Lady did not appear once and for all in 1531: she continues to appear wherever Mexican-Americans find themselves in the world today.

Our Lady did not simply tell the Indian to build her a temple. She sent them to the bishop - the representative of the institutional church. It was to be the people - the whole church - that would build the new temple of compassion. The message was two fold: the Indians, in the person of Juan Diego, were to go to the bishop (the church), and the church (in the person of the bishop) was to build a temple among the people.

In her telling the people through Juan Diego "Go to the bishop...." Virgilio says, we can glimpse a reflection of her telling the waiters of Cana "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:5).

And what she tells the church is to "build a temple...of compassion and way of life in which compassion, mercy, love will reign. In other words, her command, understood in this broader sense, was: "Incarnate the gospel among their people, so that Christ will come as a stranger but as one of them."

Mary's command to the Mexican church in 1531 was echoed by the Synod of Bishops in 1977, when it recognized and stressed the obligation on the part of the church to inculturate the gospel among the peoples of diverse cultures, in order for it to be understood and lived by them. Virgilio Elizondo claims that "without this inculturation - mestizaje - of the gospel into the natural substratum of people's life, the gospel will never truly be implanted and the truly local church will never emerge.

To summarize in a few words what people celebrate collectively on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in, therefore, "rebirth and the promise of new life."

Que viva la Virgen de Guadalupe!

San Bernardino Valley college students conduct a silent march as part of a pre-holiday demonstration for an end to violence. Carrying white balloons and wearing white ribbons as a symbol of their pledge, students first gathered in the Greek Theater to hear speakers whose lives had been personally touched by violence.

San Bernardino Valley College Demonstration to End Violence

"The quest for love and peace ... has to start within."

SAN BERNARDINO - The quest for love and peace, whether in families or on city streets, has to start within.

That was the oft-repeated theme of a San Bernardino Valley College pre-holiday demonstration for an end to violence.

Speakers during a noon rally ranged from college president, Dr. Donald L. Singer, to Samir Ghani, president of the Muslim Students Association. Ghani, 25, is confined to a wheelchair because an armed robber shot him in the back six years ago in Chicago.

Students wore white ribbons and carried white balloons in a silent walk over streets bordering the campus after their call for "unity, peace and love" in the Greek Theater.

An alumnus of Valley College, family counselor Mel Osborne, said that because of abuse in families, abuse is perpetuated through the generations and its severity increases with each generation.

Judy Giovanni of Bethlehem House, a shelter for victims of domestic violence, is a former victim of abuse who took to drugs. She said, "We have to make a decision to break the violence cycle. Get help. If children are raised seeing violence, they grow up thinking it's normal. She urged people inclined to violence to "Call the crisis centers."

Joseph Aponso, president of MECHA, told a different story. He and his brothers were raised in a loving, non-violent home, yet two of them became the victims of gang violence and drug abuse.

One brother was a gang president who suffered amnesia in a drug-related train accident only to be gunned down by a former rival gang member while biking in a park with his girlfriend.

"Take a pledge," Aponso pleaded, "Commit yourselves to non-violence. If you have a brother or sister, show them you care, give them esteem. And to you who are in gangs, your home boys won't die for you. Go home and love your family."

Jerry Tardy, president of the Black Student Union and a former gang member, said, "I pledge myself to stop violence" and to work for the education of the young.

Antar Ribaiou of the MSA noted that gang members get together "for a sense of belonging" and end up killing each other over colors, over drug money and "over territory that doesn't even belong to them." He called for officials to "show respect" for gang members, and he called for members to "get out of gangs and stop the violence."

Mohammed Cooper, a Vietnam war veteran, pointed to wars and even cartoons as perpetrators of violence. He called for gang members to be "freedom fighters for God."

Ghani, who in 1984 was shot four times by a young boy who robbed him, said that if he met the youth today, he would urge him to put his gun away and would tell him, "I love you, brother...Live in peace and harmony."