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Hispanic News

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Bishop calls for new vision at Christmas

By: Most Reverend Phillip F. Straling Bishop, Diocese of San Bernardino

As God’s people, we gather as a faith community to experience the Lord as he comes “to bring good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, new sight to the blind.” (Luke 4) We also gain a greater appreciation of the Lord’s presence as He identifies himself with the hungry, the homeless, the stranger and alien, “the least in our midst.” (Matthew 25)

During this holy season of Advent and Christmas, it is important to remember the One who calls us to celebrate and why we celebrate. By His birth, Jesus calls us to bring His healing hand to those in need. His courageous prophetic voice to those in power and the Gospel message of justice and peace to a world in need. The call of Jesus which began in Bethlehem continues today as the challenge to be “poor in spirit” in a consumer society; to comfort those who suffer in our midst; “to show mercy” in an often unforgiving world; to “hunger and thirst for justice” in a nation that is still challenged by hunger, homelessness, poverty and prejudice; and to be “peace makers” in a world that is violent and fearful. We celebrate our own insertion into the mystery of Christ and witness to the fact that we are the salt of the earth and the light for the world in our time.

Through the Incarnation, Jesus has become the example of what it means to be fully human and the guiding force leading us to our true destiny. Each of us are called to exercise and develop the talents and gifts God has blessed us with, so that we can meet the challenge set before us. As brothers and sisters destined to live forever in the kingdom, we follow the Word and example of Christ in order to continue the task of building God’s kingdom.

The great Russian writer, Dostoyevsky, said: “While we are on earth, we grope almost as though in the dark and, but for the precious image of Christ before us, we would lose our way completely and perish.” Dostoyevsky reminds us that it is the Lord’s unique presence already in our midst which preserves, guides and assist us on our journey toward the kingdom.

In the practice of our faith we proclaim the Gospel by living lives filled with compassion, courage and creativity. Discipleship today extends beyond the walls of the church in to our families, work and free time, as we strive to live the values presented in the Scripture.

My prayer is that each of us will see with a new vision, during the Advent and Christmas Season, how we can celebrate the birth of Jesus and accept the challenge to live the call of Christ by proclaiming His Gospel. May God bless us with a peace filled and joyous Christmas Celebration which will illumine the New Year of grace that lies before us.

Designated drivers can save lives over Christmas, New Year's holidays

The holiday season is a great time for socializing and gathering for festive events. Each year there is concern about the way we choose to celebrate. Alcohol frequently is part of our celebration. Holiday fun can be spoiled if caution isn’t taken.

During the holiday season alcohol related fatalities increase. According to the California Highway Patrol, 24,000 Americans lose their lives in alcohol related traffic accidents. An average of 500 people are killed each week. In California, between 325,000 and 350,000 people who think they are sober are arrested for driving under the influence.

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health wants you to know that local restaurants and clubs are participating in the "Designated Driver Program". The Designated Driver Program is a recommended way to make sure one individual will refrain from alcohol use, in order to safely drive other group members home. When individuals participate in this program, they help diminish alcohol related traffic accidents. Designated drivers can receive free complimentary non-alcoholic beverages and/or food from participating establishments.

The Designated Driver can be your assurance that the holiday celebrations are enjoyable. At local establishments, look for the Designated Driver symbol - the Hands and Key Symbol.

Take preparations to make the holiday season a safe time. The Designated Driver Program is sponsored by the California Highway Patrol Office, contact your local public affairs office for information.

A PRAYER FOR SADDAM HUSSEIN AND GEORGE BUSH

O God, you fill the universe with light and love, in you we live and move and have our being. We pray for Saddam Hussein and George Bush. Enlighten their minds and fill their hearts with the power of your creative love. Guide their actions so that all civilians and soldiers in the Gulf area are protected from the sufferings of war. Inspire their decisions so that the crisis in the Middle East is resolved peacefully, and all peoples of the world learn to walk in ways of justice, love and peace.

Amen

From Pax Christi USA
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Puerto Rican Association Installs Officers

The Inland Empire Puerto Rican Association recently held its annual installation of officers at the Ontario Golf Club. Pictured left to right are: Carmen Garcia; President, William Garcia; Vice President, Helen Ramos; Secretary, Victor Davila; Treasurer, Edith Davila; Scholarship Director, Maria Silva; Building Director, Tony Rivera, Sgt. at Arms.

Wilson Names Transition Council Four Prominent Hispanics Named

SACRAMENTO - Governor-Elect Pete Wilson has announced the appointment of a Transition Advisory Council to provide assistance in establishing policies and priorities of his new administration.

The select council includes four prominent Hispanics, who have broad expertise in their respective field, and provide an important element of the bipartisan group.

The Hispanic members of the Council include:

Hon. Gaddi Vasquez - Mr. Vasquez is the Vice-Chairman of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. He represents the Third District, the largest of five districts with nearly a half-million people. Vasquez has been named one of the most influential Hispanics in the United States by Hispanic Business Magazine.

Jaime Escalante - Mr. Escalante is a teacher at Garfield High School in East Los Angeles. His method of teaching inner-city students advanced calculus was portrayed in the movie "Stand and Deliver." He is recognized as one of the top high school teachers in the nation.

Lourdes Baird - Ms. Baird is the U.S. Attorney for the Central District in Los Angeles. She is involved in the California Women Lawyers Association as well as the Mexican-American Bar Association. Ms. Baird is a former member of the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Jeane Sepulveda-Bally - Ms. Sepulveda-Bally is a member of the Youthful Offender Parole Board. In 1988 she received the MANA award, which is presented to outstanding Latino elected and appointed officials nationwide. She also has been honored as 1987 woman of Distinction Award from the Mexican American Foundation.

"I'm committed to bringing into my administration a wide range of views on the challenges facing California. These distinguished Californians will inject fresh ideas into the process," Wilson said.

Vasquez, Escalante, Baird and Sepulveda-Bally join 31 other members of the council, including Lionel Wilson, Mayor of Oakland; the Hon. Clair Burgener, retired U.S. Representative from San Diego; and Matt Fong, Former Republican candidate for controller.

The council is chaired by Bill Hauck, executive vice president of the Information for Public Affairs, Inc., a Sacramento information services company, and Kirk West, president of the California Chamber of Commerce. (Hauck is a Democrat; West is a Republican)

Members of the House Democratic Caucus voted Rep. George E. Brown, Jr. (D-San Bernardino, Riverside, Ontario) the next Chairman of the Committee on Science, Space and Technology. By a vote of 166-33, Brown was selected to become the sixth chairman in the history of the committee, and the second Californian to fill that spot.

"Chairing the Science committee will unquestionably be the most exciting challenge of my career," says Brown. "It comes at a time when our nation's technological base faces increasing competition, when global environmental problems are approaching crisis proportions, and when we are beginning to rethink the research and development priorities which guided us throughout the Cold War."

Brown, a physicist, has been a member of the committee since 1965. During those 25 years he has pursued a wide range of interests, with an emphasis on alternative energy development, space technology policy, and environmental protection. His leadership led to the creation in 1976 of the Office of Science and Technology Policy as a mechanism to foster long-range planning among federal agencies, and the establishment in 1972 of the Office of Technology Assessment, which assists the Congress in shaping sound public policy. He has served as a member of OTA's governing body, the Technology Assessment Board, since its inception.

Brown is the 1990 recipient of three major science awards. In May 1990 he was presented with the Distinguished Public Service Award from the National Science Foundation; in October 1990 he was initiated as an Honorary Member of Sigma Xi, the Scientific research Society; and in October 1990 he was selected to receive the AAAS Philip Hauge Abelson Prize.

Brown will retain his membership on the House Agriculture Committee. He is a former chairman of three subcommittees of the Science, Space and Technology Committee: Subcommittee on the Environment and the Atmosphere (1975-1978); Subcommittee on Science, Research and Technology (1979-1981); and Subcommittee on Transportation, Aviation and Materials (1985-1986).

Reapportionment hearings scheduled

Senator Milton Marks (D-San Francisco/Marin) today announced an ambitious schedule for public hearings on the upcoming 1991 reapportionment and redistricting.

"From the beginning, I have pledged an open and public redistricting process. This series of hearings - over a dozen in the first phase alone - is an important step in fulfilling that commitment," stated Marks, who chairs the state Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment.

According to Marks, the Senate's public hearings will be organized in three distinct phases. Phase I will consist of hearings held throughout the state between December 1990 and April 1991. The purpose of these hearings, conducted before the release by the federal government of the official 1990 census data, is to solicit general testimony on redistricting and local concerns. Phase II will consist of two to three hearings in early summer with the purpose of soliciting more detailed testimony and providing an opportunity for submission of third party plans. The third and final phase of the public hearings will be in the late summer and will provide a forum for presenting the Senate's proposed redistricting plans.

"I am determined to conduct an aggressive redistricting outreach program," stated Marks. "Legally, politically, and ethically we must provide opportunities for public input, especially by members of California's Latino, Afro-American, and Asian Pacific Islander communities."

The state Senate has the primary responsibility for adjusting existing Senate district lines to ensure population equality and compliance with the Assembly in developing boundaries for the seven new and forty-five existing Congressional districts. No plan may become law unless approved by both houses of the Legislature, signed by the governor and pre-cleared by the federal Department of Justice.

Phase I

February 8 - San Diego
Subject: San Diego & Imperial Counties

February 22 - Santa Barbara
Subject: Central Coast

March 8 - Los Angeles
Subject: East Los Angeles & San Gabriel

March 22 - Compton
Subject: Los Angeles

April 5 - Riverside/San Bernardino
Subject: Inland Empire

April 19 - Hollywood
Subject: Los Angeles

Phase II

June - July; estimated 3 hearings (e.g., Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sacramento)

Phase III

August - September; estimated 2-3 hearings.
Four New Hispanic Officers Appointed to S.B.P.D.

Officer Marco Granado
Four new Hispanic San Bernardino Officers were sworn in November by Chief Daniel Robbins. The four have each successfully completed the rigorous training offered by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department at their Regional Training Center. The new officers are:

Carlos E. Rubio
Age: 34 Married with two daughters.

Officer Lyie Reyes
Carlos is a graduate of San Bernardino High School. Prior to being hired by SBPD he was the manager of Rosso's Furniture Mart. Officer Rubio enjoys sports as a hobby.

Edward G. Jimenez
Age: 27 Married with one daughter. Edward is a graduate of Colton High School, San Bernardino Valley College and San Diego State University. Prior to being hired by SBPD Officer Jimenez was a group counselor with the Riverside county Department of Probation.

Marco A. Granado:
Age: 21 Single. Marco is a graduate of Colton High School. Prior to being hired by SBPD, Officer Granado was a member of the 445th Security Police Flight, Norton Air Force Base here in San Bernardino. Officer Granado enjoys sports and body building.

Lyle Reyes
Age: 24 Lyle has two sons. Lyle is a graduate of Colton High School. Prior to being hired by the San Bernardino Police Department, Officer Reyes was employed by Stater Brother's Markets. Officer Reyes enjoys softball as a hobby.

Los Fiestas Compartidas
Si Ud. va a pasar las fiestas de fin de año con parientes y amigos, puede considerarse afortunado. Para que las fiestas sean más especiales para Ud. y su familia, invite a alguien a casa, tal vez a alguien que está solo o necesita calor humano. Hay varias organizaciones y asociaciones locales que pueden ayudarle a localizar huéspedes especiales. Póngase en contacto con una de ellas y así podrá obtener una lista de centros de cuidado de ancianos convalecientes, sanatorios y hogares para niños. Los colegios comunitarios y universidades muchas veces solicitan la hospitalidad de las familias para estudiantes extranjeros. Antes de pensar en adoptar esta idea, asegúrese que todos los miembros de su familia estén de acuerdo. De este modo, todos pasarán las fiestas con alegría y el cariño que se merecen.

Mensaje de Servicio Público de la Extensión Cooperativa de la Universidad de California y Inland Empire Hispanic News.

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

Santa's helpers were ready

the crowd was waiting
CHP Chief Edward Gomez: Hispanic Credit

Edward Gomez
Chief of Southern Division of California Highway Patrol

In 1986, Edward Gomez became the first Hispanic to ever achieve the high administrative position of Chief of the Southern Division of the California Highway Patrol in the County of Los Angeles and portion of Kern County, one of the largest of eight divisions in the State of California. He has the administrative responsibilities for the traffic law enforcement program including 12 field commands and a major communication center, with an enforcement and support personnel of approximately 1,500.

Edward Gomez

In discussing his distinguished career, the 48 year old administrator projects an image of professional competence and the confidence that is associated with experience and education.

"My parents were born in Mexico and immigrated to the United States when they were young. I am very proud of my Mexican heritage, because I feel that I have the best of two worlds, a rich traditional background and in the United States where I was born, the opportunity to be successful to my fullest potential," he said with pride.

"When I attended college, I would show my sons the report cards that I received and have them sign it. This would indicate to them that accomplishments were not easy and I expected them, when they attended college, to do well. I showed my sons that what I expected from them, I also expected from myself."

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Other "firsts" that Chief Gomez has reached in his 24 year career with the Department are: The first Hispanic to reach the rank of lieutenant; in 1979, he became the first Hispanic and youngest officer to become captain; and, the first Hispanic to become an assistant division chief!

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The Fontana Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Inland Empire Puerto Rican Association co-sponsored its first Children's Christmas Party at Miller Park in Fontana on Sunday, December 16. This is the first event of its kind that has been held in the City of Fontana. The sponsors have stated that this will be an annual event.

The refreshments were on hand and plenty of gifts, but you can't please everyone! Happy Holidays! May your holidays be joyous and your new year prosperous!

Let us help you accomplish your New Year's resolutions:
To learn a new skill, to earn a degree, to advance in your career, or to enrich your life through learning.

San Bernardino Community College District

SBVC and CHC are affirmative action institutions. All courses and programs are provided for all residents regardless of race, color, sex or handicap.

Spring Classes begin Feb. 4, 1991
Valley College Registration begins Jan. 22, 1991
Crafton Hills College Registration begins Jan. 24, 1991
Gas Appliance Repair for limited incomes

To receive discounts on Omirans bus fares, elderly and handicapped riders can purchase 1991 identification cards for $2.00. The I.D. cards entitles bus riders to a 50% discount on regular fares, and are valid for one year.

To purchase an elderly/handicapped I.D. card, proof of age or handicap must be presented. I.D. card sales locations include the following:

- Omnitrans, 1700 W. Fifth St., San Bernardino
- Omnitrans, 4748 Arrow Hwy., Montclair
- San Bernardino Senior Center, 600 West Fifth St., San Bernardino
- Harris' Department Store, Central City Mall, San Bernardino
- A.C.T.S. 24949 Prospect, Loma Linda

For more Information, call Omirans toll free at 383-5283 (San Bernardino); 983-2671 (Ontario/ Redlands/Rialto).

Sickle cell: One in 50 Hispanics

In the United States, 1 out of every 50 Latin American is born with sickle cell trait, and 1 out of every 1500 is born with sickle cell disease. Scientists theorize that sickle cell trait began as a gene mutation in the Mediterranean Sea area as a possible defense against malaria, which is prevalent in this region. So it follows, that anyone with any ancestry from the Mediterranean Sea area falls into the high risk group. Those in the high risk category are people with bloodline from Spain, Puerto Rico, Central and South America, Italy, Africa, India, Arabia, Turkey, and Iran.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited disorder that affects the red blood cells. Inside the red blood cells there is a substance called hemoglobin, which is responsible for allowing the red blood cells to carry oxygen to all parts of the body. Persons with normal hemoglobin have round, soft, spongy red blood cells. Those with sickle cell disease have a bent shape of sickle shaped or banana shaped red blood cells, which are hard and brittle. Because of their shape and rigidity, sickle cells can, at times, cause blockages in the small blood vessels inhibiting smooth blood flow to the affected tissues and thus depriving them of oxygen and nutrients. The result may be pain in various parts of the body, leg ulcers, strokes, cardiac, lung, liver and kidney problems. These complications, however, vary widely from person to person. Some individuals with sickle cell disease experience severe problems, while others have only mild symptoms. With proper medical attention, sickle cell disease patients can live full, productive lives.

Sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease are two very different conditions. Persons with sickle cell disease have inherited two abnormal genes for hemoglobin production; those with sickle cell trait have received a gene for normal hemoglobin production from one parent and another gene for sickle hemoglobin from the other parent. Because people with sickle cell trait carry one normal gene for hemoglobin production, they rarely have any medical complications, under normal circumstances. Therefore, sickle cell trait is NOT a disease. Sickle cell trait carries, however, may pass their normal sickle gene to their children. When both parents have sickle cell trait, with each pregnancy, there is a one-in-four chance that the child will have sickle cell anemia.

The Sickle Cell Organization is a community based, non-profit organization, founded in 1971, by the North Rubidoux Women's Club. The agency provides services to the residents of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, through health fairs, seminars, symposiums, educational presentations to the public schools, universities and community organization, as well as to medical professionals. Free testing is offered to the public on a voluntary basis. Follow-up counseling is provided by State Certified Sickle Cell Counselors to individuals who have positive results. The Sickle Cell Organization also provides ongoing family support services to individuals with sickle cell disease.

The Sickle Cell Organization of the Inland Counties' Central Office is located at Riverside Community Service Center in the Bobby Bonds Sports Complex 1060 University Avenue, Room 201 (at the corner of Kansas & University) Riverside, California 92507. Telephone 714-684-0402 or 1-800-992-NSCC.

College Athletic Scholarships available

Over 100,000 Collegiate Athletic Scholarships are available each year to male and female high school and junior college student athletes. Contrary to popular belief, students don't have to be All State to qualify. Much of this money goes unused. A new publication with forms, sample letters and tables of factual information is available for student athletes. It takes them step by step thru the important process of getting an athletic scholarship and includes college and conference listings.

For details on how to get a collegiate athletic scholarship, send a large self addressed, stamped envelope to The National Sports Foundation, 612A Willow Dr., P.O. Box 940, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

St. Bernadine's Medical Center establishes breast cancer support group: Choices

St. Bernadine Medical Center announces the establishment of "Choices", a breast cancer support group for young women.

Developed by three breast cancer patients, "Choices" provides an opportunity for women who have family issues, career concerns and their own health in common. "Most of the women I have met have children living at home and are working outside the home," stated Linda Maynes, a local attorney and co-chairman of "Choices". The two-hour meetings will consist of presenters who will speak on such topics as staying in charge, looking good, sexuality, friends and family, nutrition, and many others. In addition, there will be time for general discussion, networking and sharing ideas, concerns and experiences. Refreshments will be served.

For further information, please call the St. Bernadine Medical Center Education Department, 881-4385.
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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Carlos Castro
(714) 383-4819
Inland Division CHP
847 E. Brier Dr.
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Do You Want To Be A Deputy Sheriff?
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is looking for qualified men and women who are interested in joining the fastest growing law enforcement agency.
The residents of the largest county in the United States DEPEND on us to provide the finest in law enforcement.

Join the more than 1400 men and women who have made a career with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

If you or someone you know is interested in a challenging career as a Deputy Sheriff, now is the time to apply.
We want qualified people who enjoy working with others and who are dedicated to the law enforcement purpose.

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For More Information Call (714) 381-6259
Nat'l Hispanic Scholarship Fund pledged to decade of growth

El actor Robert Foxworth, segundo de izquierda a derecha, fue el maestro de ceremonias en una recepción que el Fondo Hispano Nacional de Becas celebró en la Galería de Arte Wight de UCLA para Inaugurar su programa "Nueve Décadas, Nuevos Futuros." Entre los asistentes aparecen de Izq. a der.: Jesse Aguirre, Vice Presidente Relaciones Corporativas, Anheuser-Busch Companies; el Sr. Foxworth; la actriz María Conchita Alonso y su agente Mark Shimmel, y Jorge Pinos, de la Agencia William Morris.

Honda grants UCR $50,000 for Undergrad Honors Program

RIVERSIDE - Responding to a looming national crisis in science and engineering, the American Honda Foundation has granted the University of California, Riverside $50,000 for its undergraduate Honors Program.

The grant establishes the American Honda Honors Science/Engineering Fund, an endowed fund to provide research support for women and minority students to complete their senior thesis research. The endowment will be invested, with generated income to provide between five and ten Honors Science Awards of varying amounts each year. The awards will be based on academic merit and financial need.

"Too often, the cost of a science project is prohibitive to our students, who frequently have limited financial resources," said David Warren, director of the Honors Program and a professor psychology at UCR. "The science awards will provide students the critical resources needed to complete scientific research projects."

The American Honda Foundation is the philanthropic subsidiary of American Honda Motor Co., Inc., based in Torrance.

The Honda grant supports national efforts to recruit young scientists and engineers to avert a predicted shortfall by the turn of the century of more than a half million scientists and engineers. The National Science Foundation forecasts a shortage of 400,000 scientists and 275,000 engineers by 2006 unless more young people—particularly women and members of under represented ethnic groups—pursue careers in those fields.

The Honda grant expands the opportunities available through the Honors Program to increase the number of women and under represented minorities in science and engineering.

UCR's Honors Program aims to enhance undergraduate education through small group interaction between faculty and students and specialized, sophisticated academic study. Among its goals is encouraging female and minority students to pursue advanced degrees leading to careers in academe or the private sector.

The American Honda Honors Science/Engineering Fund is aimed at students like computer science major Penny White and engineering major Jon Upton, both enrolled in the Honors Program. White hopes to become a software designer in a field dominated by men. Upton, a Native American of Cherokee descent, hopes to land a career in the diverse and expanding field of mechanical engineering.

The impending shortage of engineers comes as no surprise to Upton, although he chose the career because of his aptitude for math and science rather than expanding career opportunities. "As technology expands, there is more and more to learn...careers are getting so complex and people are becoming more and more specialized," said Upton, of Riverside.

The first student grants will be awarded next fall, once the endowed fund has generated income.

"In these difficult economic times, the University depends very much upon meaningful partnerships with the private sector to maintain excellence in our educational programs," said UCR Chancellor Rosemary S. J. Schraer. "By assisting our women and minority students to undertake ambitious research projects in science and engineering through the establishment of an endowed fund, American Honda Foundation has shown vision as well as generosity."

"The American Honda Honors Awards will encourage students to set high goals, to take chances and to try to make a difference. That is what the best education is all about," she said.

The Honors Program was established in 1988 with a $250,000 grant from the Ford Foundation.

For Reservations Call 824-5350