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Hispanic News

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Enjoy the Cinco de Mayo Celebration see page 3
IEHN Mother’s Day Publication on May 9th

PROFESSOR RECEIVES HONORS FROM INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

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Ochoa-Femandez, director of the University’s International Student Services, was one of the prime movers in the founding of Gamma Lambda, the university’s Phi Beta Delta chapter. Ochoa-Femandez received a $1,000 award and plaque at the 14th Annual Phi Beta Delta Conference held in Montreal in April.

“Elsa is in effect the heart of the internationalization of the campus,” said Rosalie Giacchino-Baker, who is also director of the International Institute. “She is involved in welcoming and working with international students, helping American students who want to study abroad, editing the international institute newsletter, and coordination of Gamma Lambda, the Phi Beta Chapter.”

Giacchino-Baker along with university President Albert Kamig and outgoing president Brian Watts, a professor of public administration, were among those who nominated Ochoa-Femandez for the award.

“...I’ve never observed anyone who has contributed as much to an institution’s international programming, and I’ve never seen anyone whose energy and commitment to internationalism has been as contagious,” wrote President Kamig in his nominating letter to the Phi Beta judges.

Ochoa-Femandez, a part-time faculty member teaching Spanish at Cal State and San Bernardino Valley Col-

MEXICO’S MAESTRO ENRIQUE DIEMECKE APPOINTED MUSIC DIRECTOR OF LONG BEACH SYMPHONY

Enrique Arturo Diemecke, above, one of the most outstanding young conductors in the world and currently music director and principal conductor of the Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional de Mexico and the Flint Symphony Orchestra (Michigan), has been appointed as the new musical director of the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra. The appointment process concluded after the review of over 200 applicants in a 29-month search. Diemecke has been guest conductor of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra for three concerts within the last five years under the sponsorship of the Sinfonia Mexicanas.

Diemecke and the final four candidates individually were guest conductors for the season’s Long Beach concerts. The selection process also included interviews with major constituency groups, board of directors, donors and orchestra members. On March 17th, Diemecke was conductor of the chamber orchestra.

The Long Beach Symphony Association, on April 20th, announced the selection of Enrique Arturo Diemecke as its new music director after a 29-month search that included a review of over 200 applicants from throughout the country.

In the role of music director, Diemecke will conduct the symphony orchestra and will be responsible for the orchestra’s artistic direction, the selection of musicians and guest artists and creating and implementing educational programs.

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The ordination rituals began with the installation of the new auxiliary bishop, following his ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests, as well as the installation of the Bishop’s Mitre, Pallium and Ring.

Newly-ordained Auxiliary Bishop Dennis O’Neill, above, receiving a standing ovation after being installed as the third bishop in the Diocese of Riverside and San Bernardino at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Chino Hills. Photo by IEHN

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Celebrate Cinco de Mayo

NEWSPAPER HONORS KARNIG FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HISPANICS

The Inland Empire’s only Hispanic Minority Owned English Language Newspaper

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INLAND EMPIRE

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Albert K. Karnig, President, Cal-State, San Bernardino, was presented with the "Sol Azteca" Award by the Indio based La Prensa newspaper for his positive impact on the lives of Hispanics living in the Coachella Valley and work with Hispanic students attending Cal-State, San Bernardino, serving the desert communities. Cal-State is currently building facilities in Palm Desert to bring bachelor’s and master’s degrees to the Coachella Valley. Photo courtesy of Cal-State's Public Affairs Office.

For his work to improve the educational opportunities for Hispanics living in the desert communities, Albert K. Karnig, president of Cal-State, San Bernardino, was given the "Sol Azteca" award from the Indio based La Prensa newspaper during a ceremony in February. The "Sol Azteca" is awarded to community leaders who have made a positive impact on the lives of Hispanics in the Coachella Valley.

Cal State is in the midst of building freestanding facilities in Palm Desert in a public-private partnership to bring bachelor's and master's degrees to the Coachella Valley. In appreciation for his work with Hispanic students attending Cal State, San Bernardino serving the desert communities, La Prensa presented the "Sol Azteca" to President Karnig.

"Currently about 40 percent of our desert campus enrollment is Hispanic.” Stressing the importance of the campus in the lives of Hispanic Students.

The “Sol Azteca” award is unique in that it brings together leaders from the business, public service and education communities, recognizing their common efforts to enhance the well-being of the Hispanic community. This diverse gathering of individuals reflects the spirit of an award that honors individuals of different backgrounds and walks of life.

To express the kinship he feels with the Spanish-speaking Hispanic community, Karnig said, "My parents were immigrants to this country and I learned to speak their language, Armenian. In my parents tongue, I would respond to your wonderful award with the word “sh-horakul!” - Thank you!” He then added, "For all my friends here, let me try it in Spanish: “Soy muy agradecido por este honor. Muchas gracias.”

The 3-hour long ceremony began with Bishop Gerald Fischer welcoming the guests, stating that the Catholic population in the diocese had increased since his ordination and a critical need existed to have an auxiliary bishop to assist in the responsibilities of administering the large geographical area of the diocese. "I welcome Bishop-designee O’Neil in our efforts to serve our Catholic brethren,” he said.

The religious ritual followed with a mass, the ordination degree of Pope John Paul II, the bishop installation and individual blessings of Cardinal Mahoney and attending bishops. The newly-ordained bishop was given a ten-minute standing ovation.

“I am truly blessed by the confidence of our Holy Father to bring this great honor on this humble servant and feel very privileged,” stated Auxiliary Bishop O’Neil in English and Spanish. “I will carry out this tremendous responsibility under our Bishop Barnes with the aim to serve our Catholic community and bring greater spiritual strength to all and overcome all the many challenges that we are confronted with on a daily basis. I ask for everyone’s prayers that I may receive the Lord’s guidance to serve our people.”

Bishop O’Neil will assist with the pastoral and administrative duties of the diocese and will be the diocesan administrator, except in certain duties, in the event that the bishop is incapacitated.

Bishop O’Neil was born in Fremont, Nebraska, the oldest of nine children. The family moved to Glenendale where he attended Catholic schools and Loyola University. He attended St. John’s Seminary and ordained a priest in 1966.

He has served in Placentia, Santa Ana, Burbank and a missionary in the Diocese of Juneau, Alaska. In 1986 the bishop was appointed to St. Thomas the Apostle in Pico-Union in Los Angeles, working with immigrant groups. In 1995, he was named a Prelate of Honor by Pope John Paul II and raised to the rank of Monsignor. His last appointment was at St. Emydus prior to his appointment as bishop.

The diocese covers the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. The recent 2000 census indicates that both counties have a total population of 3,101,184, of which 33% is estimated to be Catholics. The Hispanic population for both counties is at 1,228,962, with approximately 98% being Catholics.

Don't Drink and Drive
Have a safe Cinco de Mayo
Cinco de Mayo Celebrations

San Diego

This spring vibrant colors, festive music, entertainers and authentic Mexican food will set the stage for Cinco de Mayo 2001. Known as "The Largest Fiesta in San Diego County" Cinco de Mayo 2001 will generate crowds that come to celebrate the history, culture, arts and diversity of Mexican culture. The 18th annual event is scheduled from Friday, May 4th to Sunday, May 6, 2001. Hours for operation begin Friday 5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy a full weekend of activities beginning Friday night with stage performances and films on an open-air stage, as well as a chance to eat at one of 33 fine Old Town restaurants. Saturday and Sunday, guests will stroll through the streets and plazas of Old Town delighting in live music and entertainment, feasting on a vast array of genuine Mexican cuisine.

Each year Old Town attracts a culturally diverse crowd to take pleasure in the colors, melody, and scrumptious flavors that symbolize this celebration. Gorgeous parks, festive restaurants and recreational zones provide the ideal backdrop for the Old Town fiesta, which also happens to be the birthplace of San Diego.

The festival is free and open to the public. All of Old Town's acclaimed restaurants will be open, featuring local favorites with beer gardens and special blends of margaritas with premium tequila. Due to large crowds, using public transportation is highly recommended. For more information call 619-296-0605 or visit the website at www.estiaccincodeymayo.com.

City of Riverside

The Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Alvarez Lincoln-Mercury is sponsoring the 6th Annual Cinco de Mayo celebration on May 4th at 8051 Auto Drive, Riverside from 5:30 to 8:30, featuring buffet, Latin music, margaritas and drinks. Special premier of 2002 Lincoln Blackwood. RSVP at (909) 687-1212.

The Concilio for the Spanish Speaking of the Inland Empire-Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on Saturday, May 5th at the Centro De Niños, 5425 Victoria Ave., Riverside, from 1:00 to 10:00 P.M. with El Mero Mero from KDIF as M-etzal, king and queen contest. Free admission. For information call at (909) 683-8935

Victorville

The High Desert Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on May 5th from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM at the Victor Valley College with Lisa's Ballet Folklorico, Triotonadores Del Valle, Tri Los Melodicos, Latin Express and Tierra Yaqui. Food, vendors and bands.

Redlands

The Downtown Redlands Business Association, American Legion 650, Northside Advisory Group, Northside Impact, United States Air Force, Redlands Mall, Kinko's and local businesses are sponsoring the First Annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on May 5th from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM on State Street between Orange and 7th Streets. Parade will start at beginning of fiesta with Miss Cinco de Mayo contestants, Girl Scout troop #328, Color Guards, drill teams, school band, REV Drill Team and other marching groups. Scheduled for stage 1 at Hales Park -continual music from Latin to variety and mariachi. Scheduled on stage 2 on 6th Street-folklorico groups and Latin music. County exhibits on animals of Mexico, local oral history and Boy Scout exhibits will be on display. There are 21 food vendors selling Mexican food to pizzas, 15 vendors selling a variety of goods and local school and college exhibits.

San Bernardino

San Bernardino Valley College is sponsoring the Latin Society on Friday, May 4 at 7:00 PM at the Greek Theatre. The cost is $5.00 per person and $3.00 per student and seniors. The Latin Society is one of the most popular Latin group and have performed for over 25 years throughout Southern California. San Bernardino Valley College is located at 701 South Mount Vernon Av., San Bernardino. For information call Ruth Day at (909) 888-6511 ext. 1625.

The Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring "La Gran Fiesta" on the 5th of May in the Downtown Court Street, San Bernardino, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Cultural and entertainment stages, art and crafts displays, health services and consumer information, children's village, 100 food and variety booths. Entertainment by Paulina Rubio, Azul Azul (La Bomba), Enanitos Verdes, Los Jinetes de Linares, San Manuel Bird Singers and many more. For information, call IEHCC at (909) 888-2188.
The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and IBM today announced an alliance designed to recruit and better prepare Hispanic students for a variety of careers in the computer industry. The program provides long-term support of educational programs and on-going commitment to funding, mentoring, technology, and recruiting initiatives that will close the Hispanic educational achievement gap and help ensure the success of this growing population.

An outline of the program was presented this week at the National Capitol Forum on Hispanic Higher Education in Washington, D.C. The forum will provide input to the White House and Congress, with the intention of furthering the country's focus on narrowing the Hispanic educational achievement gap and calling attention to the need for technology initiatives, increased funding, student retention and career mentoring programs within the Hispanic community.

"HACU is committed to strengthening the institutional capacity of its member colleges and universities across the United States and abroad, particularly their information technology infrastructure," said HACU President and CEO, Antonio Flores. Several national studies have reported a 'Digital Divide' between minority and non-minority populations when it comes to computer access and expertise in today's high technology economy. The agreement with IBM is a major step in our efforts to increase access to this essential technology and connectivity to the Internet for Hispanics.

The new HACU/IBM initiatives will provide: e-Mentoring portals for Hispanic students to seek career advice and counsel from IBM professionals; e-business curriculum development for select HACU campuses; an IBM Executive to be part of HACU's strategy and philanthropic councils; Executive Partners to help with business and planning assistance; various student and faculty internship opportunities; and a technology alliance, in which Hispanic students, faculty and their families can purchase a variety of IBM PCs and options at significantly discounted prices.

"This effort plays to IBM's long-standing role in educational reform and in narrowing the 'Digital Divide' across all communities," said Bob Gonzales, vice president, employee services, IBM Corporation and IBM executive representative to HACU. "Our relationship with HACU complements the other successful Hispanic education and recruiting efforts underway at IBM - and calls attention to the increasing role business must play in making education tools, career opportunities and on-going program support available to students everywhere."

This year, IBM expects to hire approximately 20,000 new employees in the U.S. and hopes to increase the number of Hispanic recruits across all disciplines. In the past three years alone, IBM has nearly doubled the number of Hispanic hires. The recruitment initiatives with HACU will tap students and professors from HACU member institutions - colleges and universities with predominant Hispanic enrollment - to help fill critical IBM positions with qualified college graduates and IT professionals.

VILLARAIGOSA MAKES L.A. MAYOR RUNOFF, MAY BE CITY'S FIRST LATINO MAYOR IN 129 YEARS

LATINOS WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE RUNOFF ELECTION

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund predicted that the Latino community was in a position to make political strides this year in the city of Los Angeles. The prediction proved to be accurate as more than 30% of Latino registered voters went to the polls.

The race for mayor demonstrates a nationwide trend of Latinos running successfully in jurisdictions that are not predominantly Latino. Attaining the lead in the runoff means that Antonio Villaraigosa won a significant number of non-Latino votes. His coalition prevailed and allowed him to come one step closer to becoming mayor of the nation's second largest metropolis.

Other Latino candidates who made it to runoff elections are Rocky Delgadillo who is running for City Attorney and Hector Cepeda who is running against Janice Hahn in Council District 15. The presence of two Latinos in runoff elections for two citywide offices, plus the potential to elect a fourth Latino to the Los Angeles City Council will be a powerful incentive for a strong Latino voter turnout in June.

"The growing presence of Latino candidates within the political arena reflects the changing demographics of the districts, or the ability to appeal to non-Latino voters. Latinos have shown that they are now a critical element of any candidate's efforts to get elected into office." Stated NALEO Educational Fund Executive Director Arturo Vargas.

Commenting on the importance of the participation of Latinos in yesterday's election and future ones, NALEO Educational Fund Executive Director Arturo Vargas, said "The strong Latino presence in the Los Angeles municipal elections is setting the stage for the next decade of Latino political empowerment efforts, including redistricting and future electoral opportunities."
The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) recently honored Ken Barun (right), President and CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) with the Hispanic Health Leadership Award at NHMA’s Fifth Annual Conference, "Healthy Hispanic Families" in Washington D.C. The award was presented by Dr. Luis Estevez (left), Vice President of NHMA and Dr. Elena Rios (right), President of NHMA.

Barun received the award for his leadership in RMHC’s contributions to the Hispanic community. To date, RMHC’s national body and global network of local Charities have awarded more than $300 million to children’s program worldwide, many of which serve Hispanic communities.
BENITO JUAREZ
The Mexican Abe Lincoln

Benito Juarez, who can be compared to Abraham Lincoln, led Mexico through the most crucial period of its history - a history which was marred by violent clashes between the conservative and liberal factions, and invasions of foreign powers on Mexican soil. Like Lincoln, Juarez was bom on March 21, 1806 in the village of San Pablo Guelatao, Oaxaca. A full blooded Zapotec Indian who eventually raised himself out of poverty and illiteracy to become a lawyer. Juarez represented Mexico's poorest group of poor campesinos in litigations against injustices brought about by the privileged classes - mainly the "hacendado" class and the clergy.

In 1848, Juarez was elected governor of Oaxaca launching his historical political career.

Benito Juarez served three terms as Mexico's president. He faced constant political struggles between the liberals and the conservatives who were represented by the "hacendado" class and the church. The latter faction welcomed an invasion of the French hoping that a restoration of a monarchy would mean the restoration of their own power. But the president kept alive his government during the French intervention. In the end, Juarez had the Emperor Maximilian executed as a warning to all other foreign countries that Mexico would not tolerate foreign invasion again. Despite American and European pleas for clemency on behalf of the hapless emperor, Juarez sought retribution for all his followers who were executed on the orders of Maximilian.

On July 19, 1872, Juarez died in office from a heart attack leaving Mexico's fate to his one time follower Porfirio Diaz who had since become one of Juarez' Political adversaries.

For a long time the Mexican people lived with civil strife, poverty, and violence. Even news circulated around the countryside that English, French and Spanish soldiers occupied the east coast to collect debts and reparations from the government of President Benito Juarez. Though his liberal government won the violent civil strife with the Conservatives and the Church, Juarez found his treasury bankrupt and the people becoming increasingly discontented. Realizing they could not possibly collect anything from a bankrupt treasury right away, the two queens, Isabella II of Spain and Victoria of Great Britain, recalled their troops. But Napoleon III had other plans. The French emperor with a "deadly" scheme to bring all of Latin America under several established monarchies, sent his troops towards Mexico City. But the French first had to pass through the city of Puebla which lay before the national capital itself - the inhabitants of Puebla prepared to stop them.

Juarez' followers, also called "Juaristas," mixed in with some conservatives and proclericals, waited for the first sign of the invaders. It was dawn and the sun barely peeked out over the horizon, warming the entire region. The flies began to gather in the center of the dusty streets. Usually by this time the center of the city would begin to bustle with craftsmen attending to their ceramic wheels, textile workers returning to work at the mills, and merchants trading their wares at the markets. All business had come to a halt. The white washed houses, the churches, offices and factories remained closed down as if it were still night. Occasionally, a woman walked out to draw water from the neighborhood well then she quickly went back to her house and locked the door. Then two young women came running from the direction of the rising sun, "Ay vienen los Frances, " they cried out! The women had just given General Ignacio Zaragoza the signal to mobilize his troops. He thought it best to dispatch women scouts because they would be the least suspected. They also had muskets hidden under their "rebozos" and had just given the alarm for the Battle of Puebla on the morning of the 5th of May, 1862.

In his temporary headquarters, an abandoned church rectory, Zaragoza gave orders to his officers while a displaced irate priest followed the general around giving him orders of his own. "I tell you," the priest said, "you are not going to win. This battle is senseless."

The general swung around to face the priest. "I have my orders from President Juarez to defend this town with whatever I have," the general said as he looked out of the window and saw a woman "soldadera" loading muskets and rifles. "I'm going to defend this town with everything I have," Zaragoza glared down at the clergyman. "Are you going to stop me, priest?" Without saying a word the priest stormed out of the rectory. A young brigadier general named Porfirio Diaz and an infantry captain called Camacho stood by to receive their orders from their superior. General Zaragoza returned to his desk which was a heavy dark mahogany table with an exquisitely carved chair. Except for a few paintings that hung on the wall, the rest of the finer pieces of furniture had been confiscated by the government to fund the last war between the liberal and conservative sects. The French general Latrille expects us to welcome Porfirio Diaz and an infantry captain called Camacho stood by to receive their orders from their superior. General Zaragoza returned to his desk which was a heavy dark mahogany table with an exquisitely carved chair. Except for a few paintings that hung on the wall, the rest of the finer pieces of furniture had been confiscated by the government to fund the last war between the liberal and conservative sects. The French general Latrille expects us to welcome Porfirio Diaz and an infantry captain called Camacho stood by to receive their orders from their superior. General Zaragoza returned to his desk which was a heavy dark mahogany table with an exquisitely carved chair. Except for a few paintings that hung on the wall, the rest of the finer pieces of furniture had been confiscated by the government to fund the last war between the liberal and conservative sects. The French general Latrille expects us to welcome Porfirio Diaz and an infantry captain called Camacho stood by to receive their orders from their superior. General Zaragoza returned to his desk which was a heavy dark mahogany table with an exquisitely carved chair. Except for a few paintings that hung on the wall, the rest of the finer pieces of furniture had been confiscated by the government to fund the last war between the liberal and conservative sects. The French general Latrille expects us to welcome
Puebla - Cont.

never left Mother France."

For weeks when the news of the European occupation spread, the Mexicans prepared for an impending battle. A wall was built around the weakest part of the city. Between the fortified city and the little steep hill called the "Cerro de Guadalupe," the men dug out a wide deep trench. Such an excavation was not much of an undertaking for men whose ancestors built great pyramids and cities like the Toltec City of Tula and Tenochtitlan, which is now Mexico City.

President Benito Juarez sent his ambassador, the young anticipate Matias Romero, to Washington, D.C. to secure a loan from Lincoln's government. But not wanting to offend France who had always been an important ally to the United States, Lincoln's cabinet reluctantly refused to aid Juarez and his fledgling government. The United States with the Civil War at hand would not even give Juarez one rusted musket. Matias Romero then made several attempts to smuggle weapons into California and Texas, but they were always confiscated by Union troops who feared that such a cache of weapons would be intercepted by Southern Confederates.

Now General Zaragoza had to fight with what he had, but his troops were determined to fight in spite of the inferiority of their own weapons. But Puebla was well fortified and protected by both the trenches and the Cerro de Guadalupe. If the city was taken then Mexico City was at hand. A prize for the taking. President Juarez and his government still occupied the Capital. Zaragoza with a spy glass scanned the eastern horizon and saw an approaching dust cloud then the tops of bayonetted rifles and soldiers marching towards the Cerro de Guadalupe. With a signal from his general the bugler sounded the alarm with a few long blasts of his horn. The first column of men and a few women rushed up to the highest point of the Cerro and lay down on their bellies aiming their muskets towards the intruding troops. Behind the first column another line of marks­men stood ready. The infantry captain watched the horizon intently. Thirty two men and a few women were all he had time to train to shoot in volley formation. The captain gave his last instructions: "Check your targets and make your shots count! Then fire at my command!"

When the first column of enemy troops marched over the horizon they struck up so much dust that they could not see clearly what lay in front of them. Many of their rifles hung on their backs for they were not expecting a battle but a peaceful march into the city. Then Captain Camacho shouted his command to fire. The first column let out a loud smoking volley of lead that sent French soldiers scrambling for cover against the smoke and dust.

Meanwhile, the first column moved back behind the second which had already taken their position. At the captain's command another round of fire shot down more surprised French soldiers. From his vantage point General Zaragoza had seen the first assault and was proud of how skillfully Camacho's men and women fought. Then the general remembered what Juarez had said in a letter to the Juaristas: "They will defend with honor and liberty." The President was speaking of the heart and soul of Mexico. "The Mexicanos" who were a great breed of people with the stubborn determination of the Spaniard and the preserving spirit of the Indian.

The French General Charles Latril Conde de Lorenz ordered his men to retreat and regroup. By then not wanting his soldiers to exhaust all their ammunition, Camacho called for his troops to retreat back towards the trench. The Mexicans ran as quickly as possible with the enemy in pursuit. One Juarista fell when a ball hit him in the thickest part of his thigh. But two of his comrades each grabbed one of his arms and carried him off.

Beyond the trench lay more Juaristas ready to ambush the French troops as they came charging down the cerro. Many of them fell into the trench as they came running down the cerro's steep slopes. General Diaz ordered his own small battalion to attack the fallen French as they struggled to climb out of the trenches. A loud horrifying cry rose out of the Mexican soldiers. These were the same "gritos" that sent chills up the spines of Fernando Cortez' band of conquistadores some three hundred and forty years ago.

While some soldiers with rifles began picking off French soldiers, others came down on the invaders with machetes waving fiercely over their heads. The French general seeing his men in a trap finally ordered them to retreat.

The Mexican casualties were taken to the church where an infirmary had been set up by the women and a few priests who sympathized with the Mexican cause. From his vantage point on the wall, Zaragoza viewed the battleground. About eight hundred French men lay dying and dead on the battlefield and in the trenches. He then turned towards Diaz who stood next to him. "You know they are going to assault us again," Zaragoza said.

**Wednesday, April 25, 2001**

**Drive Away with Cash**

Is that gas guzzling vehicle taking money out of your pocket? Are you tired of polluting the environment? Then why not purchase an alternative fuel vehicle.

You can do your part to keep the air clean and save money on fuel costs. Plus you'll be able to take advantage of Riverside Public Utilities' Alternative Fuel Vehicle Purchase Incentive and receive rebates covering 10% of the cost to buy or lease a new alternative fuel vehicle.

To find out more about the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Purchase Incentive program, call us at 826-5485.
PACIFIC BELL FOUNDATION SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR
COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

$350,000 Available to Local Groups Using Technology to Meet Community Needs

For the first time in the San Bernardino area, the Pacific Bell Foundation is making available $350,000 to community groups who develop innovative programs that use new technology for educational, economic and community development issues.

Through its new Community Enrichment Program, Pacific Bell will award grants ranging from $5,000 to $15,000 to groups in San Bernardino, San Diego, Riverside, Imperial and Orange counties. Grants will be awarded to organizations whose applications demonstrate innovative programs which meet community needs to improve quality of life. Grant applications are available immediately and must be postmarked by June 1, 2001. The grants will be awarded in October 2001.

Pacific Bell's Community Enrichment Program supports the Pacific Bell Foundation's mission to help meet the current needs of communities and address long-term community issues in the areas where Pacific Bell has a presence.

"As the leading telecommunications company in California for more than a century, Pacific Bell has a proud history of delivering new technologies to benefit the communities we serve," said David Nichols, regional president for Pacific Bell. "We are pleased to support organizations that are finding innovative uses for technology that enrich the quality of life for Californians."

To be considered for a grant, organizations must be classified as a government entity or have tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status and be located in San Bernardino, San Diego, Riverside, Imperial or Orange counties. Organizations working in partnership with groups that meet these criteria also will be considered.

Applications will be judged based on a list of key criteria, including the ability of the project to:

- Meet community needs, especially in communities typically underserved by technological innovations
- Enhance the quality of life in San Diego, Riverside, Imperial or Orange counties
- Expand the availability of information resources
- Bridge gaps between communities

"Pacific Bell has pledged to support the communities in which it operates," said Nichols. "And we're making good on that pledge by providing civic groups in California with the tools they need to make a difference. In addition to cash donations, Pacific Bell volunteers—both employees and retirees—donate their time and experience to a variety of efforts in our communities in order to improve people's quality of life."

To receive more information on the San Diego, Riverside, Imperial and Orange counties Community Enrichment Program, including a complete program prospectus and application, contact the program office at 619-237-2041.

SENIOR SAFETY ACADEMY

Starting Tuesday May 1, the Crime Prevention Unit of the Ontario Police Department will conduct the "Senior Safety Academy" at the Multi-Purpose center, 225 E. B St., Ontario. The classes will be held every Tuesday for five consecutive weeks from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The program is free and training will include topics and information on personal safety, telemarketing fraud, con games, elder abuse, sexual abuse and home security. No pre-registration is required. The Academy is open to the general public, but special emphasis will be given to safety issues affecting the elderly.

For further information, please contact Jamey L. Windt at (909) 395-295.
LATINO VOTE STILL BELOW POTENTIAL

Separate Los Angeles Times exit polling showed a second strong trend in voting Tuesday: White voters outnumbered Latinos by more than 5 to 1 in the Valley, despite new census figures showing Latinos nearly even with whites in the area's population.

The wide gap between Latinos' share of the population and their share of the electorate reflects a phenomenon found well beyond the Valley: The political clout of Latinos across the Sunland has lagged well behind their explosive growth in the population at large, experts say.

Part of the lag is because of the distinctive youth of the Latino population overall, meaning many are not old enough to vote.

The sharp disparity between population and electoral share on Tuesday came even as a record number of Latinos turned out at the polls.

They survey has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points for Valley Latinos. But Latinos outnumbered whites in the citywide population and are just behind whites in the Valley, according to 2000 census figures. With births outpacing immigration as the main cause of surge in Latino population, many are too young to vote. Many others are immigrants ineligible to vote.

A Times computer-assisted analysis of Tuesday's election returns reflected a Valley electorate sharply divided along ethnic and geographical lines.

Soboroff was the favorite in the seven predominantly white districts around the southern, western and northern Valley rim, from Sherman Oaks and Encino through Woodland Hills, Chatsworth and Northridge to Sunland and Tujunga in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains.

Villaraigosa won the seven more heavily Latino districts of the northeast and central Valley, taking Arleta, Pacoima, Sylmar, North Hollywood, Van Nuys and Reseda.

Overall, 53% of Valley Latinos favored Villaraigosa, followed by 16% for Soboroff, 13% for Rep. Xavier Becerra—The other Latino in the mayoral race—and 10% for Hahn, according to times exit polling.

In the Valley, Latinos made up 13% of the voters, up from 9% in the April 1997 election. The Times surveyed 1,208 voters in the Valley as they left the polls.

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The current Bush tax cut plan fails to provide much needed relief to the many hard working, moderate-to-low income families, including poor Hispanic families, nationwide. As proposed, the Bush plan excludes more than half of all Latino families with children (53%). Meanwhile, the top one percent of the population receives more than 40% of the tax relief. This is unfair for Hispanic and other poor families that work hard and follow the rules.

These families also deserve and need a tax cut. Supporters of the Bush tax plan have indicated that lowering the 15% tax bracket to 10% and doubling the child tax credit from $500 to $1,000 would improve the overall economic outlook for low-income families. Unfortunately, three-quarters of hard working families most in need, defined more by payroll taxes than federal income taxes. Therefore, these tax provisions will not affect the millions of all working families are burdened more by payroll taxes than federal income taxes. Unfortunately, three-quarters of all working families are burdened more by payroll taxes than federal income taxes. Therefore, these tax provisions will not affect the millions of hard working families most in need, especially poor families that do not earn enough to owe federal taxes. Tax cuts also affect children and Latino children, in particular, seem to have been overlooked in this debate. Still, Hispanic children represent a significant portion of our future workforce and their economic well-being should be a priority for all Americans. Even so, doubling the child tax credit without making it refundable will leave out one in four American children (16.6 million children) and more than half of all Latino children (56%) whose families earn too little to receive the credit.

In comparison, this child credit provision would provide the largest tax reductions to families with incomes above $110,000 and give much larger benefits to upper-income families than moderate and low-income families. This means no children would be lifted from poverty under a child credit that benefits only the richest families.

NCLR has consistently urged lawmakers to take steps to ensure Hispanic families benefit from any tax relief measures debated by Congress. Many have argued that Latinos and other poor families do not pay taxes and do not deserve a tax cut; but this is simply untrue. Most Latino families that would be excluded pay high marginal tax rates, pay a disproportionately high amount of payroll taxes, and are especially hard-hit by excise and sales taxes. In turn, these families are forced to raise their children in inadequate and overcrowded housing, and most of them pay more than half of their incomes on rent. Therefore, NCLR believes that there are no more deserving Americans than the millions of Latinos and other poor families that work long hours for low pay and still make major political and socioeconomic contributions to the nation.

President Bush and Congress should fight for a fair and balanced tax cut that puts money back into the pockets of American families who need relief. NCLR strongly supports making the popular child tax credit refundable, allowing working poor families to benefit from the credit. This means a $1,000 refundable child credit would lift more than 2 million children out of poverty, making this tax provision one of the most effective strategies to deal with child poverty in decades. In addition, NCLR supports expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which rewards hard work, reduces the heavy burden of payroll taxes, and lifts more than 5 million children out of poverty. NCLR had made this issue its number one priority for Hispanic America families this year. Without major changes in the Bush plan, NCLR will continue to push lawmakers for a more fair and just tax relief package for all Americans.

Lawmakers in the U.S. House of Representatives have already moved to pass a major piece of the Bush tax cut without ensuring that all Americans share in the benefits. We can and should do better to pass a tax cut plan that provides a significant share of the benefit to the nation’s hardest working families.

Visit http://nclr.policy.net/grassroots to take action now!
The lower interest rate makes loans affordable to qualified homeowners. An example of a fully amortized 20 year loan would have meet monthly payments at the current market rates. An example of a fully amortized 20 year loan would have monthly payments as follows:

- $20,000 - $110.92 per mo.
- $35,000 - $194.11 per mo.
- $25,000 - $138.65 per mo.
- $40,000 - $221.84 per mo.
- $30,000 - $166.38 per mo.
- $45,000 - $249.57 per mo.

To qualify, the applicant must meet HUD income guidelines. In evaluating loan applicants, the Department of Economic and Community Development looks at gross annual income. The maximum gross income limits are $45,000. Improvements such as roofing, painting, electrical and plumbing are among the eligible work items. All work must be performed by a licensed contractor.

The rehabilitation loan can be used for bringing the building up to community building standards and making needed repairs. The minimum loan is $5,000 and the maximum is $45,000. Improvements such as roofing, painting, electrical and plumbing are among the eligible work items. All work must be performed by a licensed contractor.

This program is available countywide with the exception of the cities of Apple Valley, Chino, Fontana, Hesperia, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Rialto, San Bernardino, Upland and Victorville. Unincorporated areas surrounding those cities are eligible. For information regarding programs in non-participating areas, please contact the respective city.

Assemblymember Marco Firebaugh and a statewide coalition of civil rights organizations and community leaders will hold a press conference announcing their campaign to make California take the practice of racial profiling seriously and pass AB 788. AB 788, a bill introduced by Assemblymember Marco Firebaugh, will combat racial profiling by establishing a tough statutory definition of racial profiling and requiring statewide data collection.

Eight other states have passed bills requiring data collection on racial profiling in traffic stops, and the Texas legislature has just passed such a measure. California has had several opportunities to enact such a law, but has failed to do so.

But organizations promise that this year will be different and will announce an unprecedented level of support from community-based groups and civil rights organizations across the state. Last year at this time, just 18 organizations had submitted letters of support for a similar bill; this year, more than four times that number have already signed on, with more announcing their support each day. Organizations representing Latino, Asian Pacific American, and African American communities are uniting to end a practice that intimidate Californians of color and sow distrust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.

AB 788 will soon be heard before the Assembly’s Public Safety Committee.

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**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AND ITS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ECD)**

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- Small Business Enhancement Loans
- Business Expansion Revolving Loans
- Community Development Block Grant
- HOME Program
- Home Repair and Rehabilitation Programs
- Industrial Development Bond Programs
- Mortgage Revenue Bond Programs
- Public Service and Capital Improvement Projects

For program information please contact:

Department of Economic and Community Development

290 North D Street, Sixth Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0040

(909) 388-0800

All County of San Bernardino Department of economic and Community Development housing programs comply with Federal Fair Housing Laws.
MAESTRO ENRIQUE DIEMECKE APPOINTED MUSIC DIRECTOR OF LONG BEACH SYMPHONY

Inland Empire Hispanic News
Wednesday, April 25, 2001

MAESTRO ENRIQUE DIEMECKE APPOINTED MUSIC DIRECTOR OF LONG BEACH SYMPHONY

Continued from Page 1

orchestra which featured sections by Barber and Dvorak, as well as his own arrangement inspired by a Handel composition.

"After my experience with the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra and the concert, I wanted to be there," stated Diemecke, speaking from Hartford, Conn., where he was scheduled to conduct the Hartford Symphony. "It felt like a very good match between me and the orchestra. We have a good rapport and we can do a lot for the Community."

Comments from within the Long Beach Symphony Association and the public indicated that with his (Diemecke) Latin roots and his international outlook, Long Beach just may see an infusion of Mexican and South American musical works, which have been lacking from classical venues throughout Southern California.

Diemecke will have triple responsibilities as musical director of the Long Beach, Flint, Mich, and City of Mexico Symphony Orchestras.

Diemecke, born in Mexico and educated in Mexico and Europe, is one of the most outstanding and internationally known young conductors. He has performed with the world's finest symphony orchestras in the United States, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South America since 1994.

Diemecke is not a stranger to the Inland Empire. The Sinfonia Mexicana of San Bernardino has sponsored three concerts with Diemecke conducting the San Benardino Symphony Orchestra, and one of those concerts included the Orquesta Nacional de Mexico.

The City of San Bernardino
Home of the International Council of Friendship

celebrates Cinco de Mayo

We recognize our rich and diverse heritage and appreciate the many contributions the Hispanic Community has made to our city's culture.

Mayor Judith Valles and the Common Council
For more information please contact the Hispanic Scholarship Fund at:

1-877-HSF-INFO or www.HSF.net.

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In conjunction with the Cincio de Mayo holiday, participating Anheuser-Busch distributors will make a contribution to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund for every case of Budweiser and Bud Light 12 oz. cans sold from April 2nd to May 5th. These funds will help HSF provide needed financial assistance to deserving Hispanic students.

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May 5, 2001

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Inland Counties Legal Services
Personnel Dept. LS/RIVEX
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1120 Palmirita Avenue, Ste. 210
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895-5381

New Highland
1014 E. Highland Ave.
(Across Perris-Hill Park, Next to Pizza Hut)
881-1191

We make Wednesday Nights Fun.”

"Riverside Public Utilities’ title sponsorship of Riverside Wednesday Night helps us keep this great family event going for all of Riverside!” - Erik Redmond

Dena, Erik, and Meghan Riverside Wednesday Night Staff

Riverside Public Utilities, is proud to once again be the presenting sponsor of Riverside Wednesday Night. This great family oriented street fair and farmers market brightens up Downtown Riverside every Wednesday from Spring to Fall. This sponsorship opportunity not only allows us to give back to our community, but it gives us a chance to get up close with our customers and provide them with valuable information on our energy conservation programs and water and electric services. “It’s great to have a title sponsor that cares so much about the community and helps us to run a successful event each week,” says RWN manager Erik Redmond. To find out more about Riverside Public Utilities Sponsorship Program, call 826-5745.

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

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GIRL SCOUTS PLAN DIVERSITY THINK TANK

The Girl Scouts of San Gorgonio Council is hosting a Think Tank on Diversity and Pluralism on April 28. The Think Tank will bring together a wide variety of constituents who will help the council develop broad-based strategies to address the needs and interests of the diverse populations in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

"For almost 90 years, Girl Scouts has been committed to serve 'every girl, everywhere'," stated Marleta Fritz, Interim Executive Director. "As the demographics of Riverside and San Bernardino counties continue to shift, we want to ensure that the council develops ways to be accessible to all girls who want to participate in Girl Scouting."

Several initiatives have been started including Membership Extension, a program for underserved girls. This program, which encourages community collaborations, has tripled the number of girls served in the 2000 membership year.

Today, as when founded in 1912, Girl Scouts helps cultivate values, social conscience and self-esteem in young girls, while also teaching them critical life skills that will enable them to succeed as adults. For more information on the Think Tank or to become a volunteer, call Sandra Farst at (99) 3078-6555 or (800) 400-4475.

To all readers of the Inland Empire Hispanic News

Assemblymember

John Longville

Joins his Latino friends and neighbors in celebrating their victory over oppression at the Battle of Puebla in 1862

¡Viva! Cinco de Mayo 2001

Planning is underway for PRO's 8th Annual Peace Festival. It will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2001 at Bordwell Park (2008 Martin Luther King Blvd.) in Riverside from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be live music, food, games, raffles and a free health clinic. All activities are open to the public. People Reaching Out is seeking vendors to display their wares during the festival. For more information, call Obed Medina or Kirk Burke at (909) 686-8946.

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Inland Empire Hispanic News

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Dept. Assistant
Nat'l non-profit seeking asst. to provide quality customer service. Excellent phone & computer skills, proficient in MS Word & ACCESS. Organized, detail-oriented, able to multi-task & work heavy telephones. Spanish bilingual preferred. Send resume, salary history to: Prog. Dir., 1751 Plum Lane, Redlands, CA 92374. EEO

TEACHER JOB FAIR
The San Bernardino City Unified School District is sponsoring a Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, May 12th from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The fair will be held at the San Bernardino City Unified School District's Board of Education Building located at 777 N. "F" Street in San Bernardino.
For more information regarding the Teacher Job Fair and to schedule an interview, please call (909) 381-1228.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Notice is hereby given to Contractors for open bidding on the by-anual Agreement for the Maintenance of Traffic Signalized Intersections and various Flashing Lights throughout the County of San Bernardino. The Agreement is for routine maintenance of 41 signalized intersections and 24 flashing lights and 26 street safety light locations. The Agreement covers the monthly fee for the itemized routine maintenance of the signalized intersections and the extraordinary maintenance unit costs for the signalized intersections and the flashing/safety lights. May 17, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. is the deadline to accept contract proposals. The contract is proposed for a two-year period. A sample Agreement can be viewed on the County web site - www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/Durchasing. Find Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement under Request for Proposais. The sample agreement can also be obtained at the Traffic Division of the Public Works Department, 825 E. Third Street - Room 115, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0835.

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