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INLAND EMPIRE

HISPANIC NEWS

Serving the Hispanic Communities in the Inland Empire
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The Inland Empire's only Hispanic Minority Owned English Language Newspaper

HISPANIC EMPLOYEES ALLIANCE HOSTS SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

San Bernardino County Hispanic Employees Alliance held its 7th Annual Scholarship Luncheon at the San Bernardino Hilton. Sitting at the head table (1 to r) Martin Valdez, chief of staff, 5th District Supervisor Jerry Eaves, Ray Abril, Jr., HEA honoree, San Bernardino County retiree and Colton School District Trustee retiree, John Michaelson, County Administrative Officer, Arthur Milian, HEA president, Dr. Albert Kamig, president, Cal-State University, San Bernardino and keynote speaker and Father Patricio Guillen, who gave the invocation. Photo by IEHN

LIBRERIA DEL PUEBLO 16TH ANNUAL FIESTA DE LA MUJER

Librería Del Pueblo presented its 16th Annual Fiesta De La Mujer at the GENTS Community Center. Pictured (1 to r) Grace Vargas, Lilian Robles, deceased, represented by her husband Louis Robles and daughter Rhonda Robles, Manuela Sosa, Norma Gascon, Reyna Gonzalez, Josie Gonzalez. Photo by IEHN

VETERANS HONOR FORMER SERVICE-MEN IN REDLANDS MEMORIAL

Redlands American Legion Post 650 and American Legion Post 106 hosted a Veterans Day Memorial Ceremony to honor World War II Veterans and a special tribute given to Cheto Gomez, Wally Sanchez, Julio Martinez and Isabell (Velo) Lopez (deceased) at the Veterans Eternal Flame, Jennie Davis Park. Pictured above (1 to r) is Past Commander, American Legion Post 650 Rudy Lozano, master of ceremony, Colonel Joseph C. Rodriguez, US Army (Ret), Korean War veteran, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and former resident of San Bernardino, who was keynote speaker and Cheto Gomez, Army veteran, who landed on Omaha Beach in the Normandy invasion. Photo by IEHN

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, TONY CHAVEZ, DIES

Tony Chavez, born, raised and educated in Casa Blanca, a suburb of the City of Riverside, died of a heart attack on November 6, while at work. An activist for over three decades, Chavez was an assertive, straight-talking community-in

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KENNETH MACIAS, FROM VATO TO ENTREPRENEUR
A Competitive Spirit and a Little Extra Push
From A Teacher Made a Difference

How does a young man go from being a platform shoe wearing, cool guy in the '70s to the founder of one of the top auditing, tax and business advisory firms in the country? With a competitive spirit and a little extra push from a teacher that cared, that's how.

Kenneth Macias, CPA, founder and managing partner of Macias, Gini & Company LLP, identifies very well with the Lou Diamond Phillips character in the film Stand and Deliver. At Kennedy High School in Sacramento, Macias was a smart kid who received A's and B's in advanced math courses but who still wanted to be "cool" and accepted.

"I didn't feel I was different until junior high," explains Macias about his ethnicity. There he befriended a group of Latino street youths. "I wanted to be cool, so I was a good student in the day and a "vato" in the evenings," he recalls. But when his competitive nature with his classmates floundered, Mrs. Steinberg made a big difference in Macias' life. She pushed him to deliver all he was capable of and to excel.

Ten years ago, Macias ran into his former teachers who he now fondly remembers as one of his favorites. Recalling that he was that "stand and deliver" student in the back of the classroom, she was proud to learn of his great accomplishments. When she invited him to speak to her advanced calculus class, Macias was more than happy to return to the classroom because he wanted to return the favor and help make a difference in another student's life.

A proud product of the public school system, Macias has achieved fantastic success, both in business and academia. His clients include the cities of Los Angeles and San Jose, the Los Angeles International Airport, the counties of Sacramento and Santa Clara and the state of California. He holds a doctorate, three masters' degrees, and a bachelor's degree. His financial success allows him to give back to his community in the form of numerous scholarships to Latino and business and accountancy students. Despite all he has accomplished, he still looks back to his school days and remembers those people that made a difference in his life.

Over the next decade the state will need to find 300,000 people to take on the challenging but rewarding job of teaching California's children. As an extension of ongoing recruitment efforts led by CalTeach (the California Center for Teaching Careers) the Hispanic Heritage campaign "Inspire a Future Leader. Teach," is a statewide public education campaign to attract individuals to the teaching profession -- especially Latinos.

CalTeach is a one-stop information, referral and recruitment center for individuals interested in a teaching career. Administered by the California State University, Office of the Chancellor, CalTeach offers a variety of informational and advisor-assisted services. Established in 1997 by the California Legislature, the goal of CalTeach is to recruit qualified individuals to the teaching profession and alleviate the shortage of credentialed teachers in the state. For more information on how to become a teacher, please call CalTeach at 1-888-CALTEACH or visit www.calteach.com

Kenneth A. Macias, founder and managing Partner of Macias, Gini & Company LLP, has over 21 years of experience in managing audits of federal, state, and local government agencies, in addition to nonprofit and commercial enterprises. Macias, Gini & Company LLP is a statewide-licensed public accounting firm with offices in Sacramento, Fresno, Los Angeles, and the San Francisco Bay area. The firm's 80-plus staff provides auditing, accounting, management consulting, and tax services to governmental and nonprofit organizations, as well as to corporations, partnerships, and individuals. The firm's larger government clients include the cities of Los Angeles, San Jose, Sacramento, and San Francisco, and the counties of Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, Contra Costa, and San Mateo.

Mr. Macias earned his B.S. in Business Administration (Accounting) and a M.S. in Accountancy (Taxation) from California State University, Sacramento; a M.B.A. in Finance from Golden Gate University; and a M.P.A. in Finance and Auditing from University of Southern California (USC). He has recently earned a Doctorate in Public Administration (D.P.A.) degree from USC. Mr. Macias qualified in administrative theory, accepted a challenge of public finance, and performance auditing. His dissertation was entitled, "A Financial Audit Model for Entrepreneurial Governments.

His community activities include serving on the Advisory Council for the School of Accountancy for California State University, Sacramento and National University; the California State Athletic commission as an appointed boxing Inspector; and the City of Sacramento Blue Ribbon Citizens Committee as an active participant involving recommendations for Police Department policy changes. The SIICC awarded Mr. Macias the "Businessman of the Year" in 1992.
Continued from Page 1

volved individual who spoke about discrimination in the community, past and present, and endeavored to overcome obstacles with positive action.

In an interview with IEHN in July, 1989, Chavez recalled the discrimination that was prevalent against the Mexican-Americans during his growing years in the barrio of Casa Blanca and he made a determination to overcome those obstacles.

During his high school days at Poly High School, Chavez was active in sports, especially baseball, where he was part of the all star Colts League World Series and received two cultural academic scholarships. After graduation, he enrolled at Riverside Community College and, again, became involved in baseball and eventually was an honoree in the RCC Hall of Fame. He graduated with an AA Degree.

Knowing that to overcome the discrimination that was prevalent in our society, Chavez decided that a higher education was essential for advancing his career and increase his knowledge. He enrolled at Cal-State, Los Angeles, commuting to LA and simultaneously working full time at the Villegas Community Center at Casa Blanca, in addition to being involved in the civil rights movement during the hectic sixties. He received his BS in Community Planning in 1967.

He became a full time permanent director at VCC and developed model programs consisting of multiple socio/economic services based on needs.

He continued his education at Cal-State, San Bernardino, receiving a BA in Sociology in 1970. During the succeeding year, he traveled to Mexico with his family and later became an educational consultant. He continued his education, receiving a BA in Business Administration at Cal-State, San Bernardino.

In 1983, Chavez started the All-Star Trophy Company in San Bernardino. Thereafter, Chavez founded the Hispanic Hall of Fame, later named the Latino/Native American Hall of Fame. He always insisted that there were many heroes in the Inland Empire that were not recognized and throughout the years, selected over 200 individuals that contributed to their respective communities that were entered into the LNAHF.

Chavez became president of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and instituted changes to enhance the chamber’s financial status. During his tenure, Chavez sold the chamber property to the Libreria Del Pueblo.

Chavez is survived by his wife Christina, daughter Delia, son Carlos, mother Sabina, brothers Rudy and Gilbert and sisters Gloria, Jovita and Alicia.

The Inland Empire Hispanic News extends its condolences to the Chavez family.

RIVERSIDE 9th ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS TAKES ENERGY-SAVING STEPS TO KEEP THE TRADITION

For the past eight years, thousands have gathered in downtown Riverside the day after Thanksgiving to take part in what has now become tradition - the Festival of Lights Celebration. This year thousands more are expected to attend this exciting event. But there will be a subtle difference behind the scenes this year to help reduce energy demands.

The Mission Inn and Riverside Public Utilities joined forces to install a 1.5-megawatt power generator at the city’s power supply if power shortages were to occur this winter. Additionally, the City of Riverside has replaced a majority of the standard “twinkle” lighting along the downtown mall with more energy-efficient LED lighting, and plans to use low-watt bulbs in strands of lights that are featured along the rooftops of various buildings downtown.

None of these energy-saving changes will effect beauty of the 9th Annual Festival of Lights Celebration on November 23, however. Great music, food, vendors, carriage rides, and shopping will be just part of the entertainment for visitors to enjoy. Festivities will get underway at 5:30 PM with the traditional lighting ceremony to begin at 6:15 PM. For more information on the Festival of Lights Celebration, call (909) 683-7100.

“It was a really bright idea!”

Rolando Iglesias, owner of Maxi Foods

Every once in a while a bright idea will pop into your head. Like the one Riverside Public Utilities had when we decided to give rebates to business customers who changed out their older inefficient indoor and outdoor lighting with new high-energy efficient fixtures. By taking advantage of our lighting efficiency incentive programs businesses can receive substantial rebates and save on future energy costs. Just ask Rolando Iglesias, owner of Maxi Foods, about it. He’s already cashed in on over $7,500 in rebates for the changes he made to one of his Riverside stores. “The store is much brighter now, but we actually use less energy for lighting than we did before,” Rolando says. To inquire about our Outdoor Security Lighting and Energy Efficient Lighting incentive programs for business customers, call (909) 826-5485.
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, November 21, 2001

LIBRERIA DEL PUEBLO 16TH ANNUAL FIESTA DE LA MUJER

REYNA GONZALEZ

Reyna Gonzalez was born in Ojuelos, a beautiful countryside small town in the state of Jalisco, Mexico, to Jose Refugio Gonzalez and Maria Refugio Contreras. Gonzalez is the fourth daughter in a family of eleven siblings. At fourteen Gonzalez decided to follow on the steps of many "paianos" that had migrated to the United States in search for a better life. The need to know another kind of life and help support her family forced her to leave her beautiful little hometown and to start the journey to the unknown.

Gonzalez' first job in San Bernardino was as a babysitter and laundry worker. Despite many financial problems, she managed to attend an English study class for a high school diploma and was able to graduate from high school in 1992. Later she enrolled at another community college where she graduated in May 2000. Gonzalez is currently enrolled at the California Southern Law School in Riverside, CA. She obtained her notary public license and received a degree in paralegal studies in 2004.

Gonzalez started volunteering her services for Libreria Del Pueblo in 1994, in the Calpulli Project and the citizenship department. She was hired in 1995 as a caseworker for the immigration and Naturalization Service and the Board Immigration Appeals on behalf of indigent members of our community. Mastering the knowledge and skills of immigration laws, which is required for accreditation, has been one of her biggest accomplishments. Gonzalez has served hundreds of needy immigrants in her seven years of community services utilizing her legal skills and hopes to serve many more.

For Gonzalez, life in the United States has been hard and difficult. She went through long hours of work just to make less than minimum wage and experienced exploitation, racism and discrimination even in her own community. As a woman she had to deal with machismo and lack of opportunities because of gender. However, she found it all worthwhile that only through organization and education that problems could be overcome.

Gonzalez' greatest desire is to continue her education and advocacy skills, in the California Southern Law School and the looks forward to the many more years of service and advocacy on behalf of the immigrant community of the Inland Empire.

MANUELA GRANADOS SOSA, DDS

Dr. Manuela Granados Sosa was born in Silao, Guanajuato, Mexico. From 1949 to 1955 Dr. Sosa was an agricultural worker every summer, picking cotton, strawberries, apricots, grapes, prunes, etc.

In 1959 Sosa graduated from Colton Union High School and started as a salesgirl at Crown Drugstore in San Bernardino. In 1966 she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree and in 1968 a lifetime secondary teaching credential both from UCR. She majored in microbiology with minors in chemistry and physics. She has had her own dental practice since graduating from University of La Sierra in 1974. Her husband, Randy, is a retired civil engineer. They have three children, Vivien, Christine and Gregg Estean.

Sosa is president of the Inland Empire Scholarship Fund, and has raised $170,000 for San Bernardino and Riverside County college students. She is the first woman to establish a dental practice in Riverside. She has been a member of the following professional organizations:

• American Dental Association
• California Dental Association
• Latin American Dental Society

She was the first woman and minority to serve on the TCDS board and legislative committee. She has also served as Chairperson of the Committee of Dental Health and its Board of Directors.

Sosa has participated in multiple community activities such as Lincoln School and Woodrow Wilson PTA, San Bernardino YMCA Board of Directors, Colton Library, San Bernardino Valley College Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, Mujeres Unidos, Inc. and Mexican American Student Organization, founder of Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce and many other community activities in the Inland Empire.

Sosa has also been awarded for her hard work in the community: the Colton High School Hall of Fame; Woman of the Year -1983 by Assemblyman Steve Clute; 68th Assembly District; Congress for Communities Leadership - 1986; Woman of the Year -1989 by former Assemblyman Jerry Eaves; 68th Assembly District; "Senator Joe Baca's Annual Golden Spirit Award and many others.

GRACE VARGAS

City of Rialto Mayor

Mrs. Norma Gascon was born in Mexicali, B.C. Mexico and she graduated with honors from Guadalupe Victoria High School. In 1985 she obtained an Elementary Teaching Degree from the Escuela Normal Superior "Maestro Rafael Ramirez". That same year she enrolled at the Universidad Pedagogica Nacional for special teaching courses and obtained a four-year Degree on Artistic Studies (dance classes) She enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College and studied English reading and writing during 1989-91. She enrolled in the H&R Block income tax preparation program since 1992.

Mrs. Gascon served as a volunteer in the INEA literacy program and Mexican Red Cross in the vaccination campaign. Her greatest desire was to become a Licenciada en Turismo at her home country. On her arrival to the United States she found the opportunity to work at a travel agency having gained a vast experience in that area.

Grace Vargas is simply known as "Amazing Grace" and her passion and desire to be a good mother, a savvy business owner and an honest human-being molds her special distinction to make a real difference in a city she has lived in for nearly 30 years.

Had Grace Vargas not possessed this passion and desire, she would not be joining the ranks of outstanding Rialto Citizens such as Congressman Joe Baca, former Councilman Sam Curtis and Hattie Inge. The Rialto community knows that once Grace Vargas has made up her mind, there is no stopping her until some kind of difference is made.

Vargas was born and raised in Yuma, Arizona-desert country. She quit her first year of High School and got married at the age of 14 to a farmer's son who was 16 years old. To that union were born seven children. When her husband was injured in a tragic car accident that also claimed the life of her brother, Grace had to nurse her husband back to health. One year later, he left her and at the age of 22 with seven children, Vargas became the sole breadwinner for her family. She went in search of a job and applied for public assistance receiving $10 a month and $15.00 in food stamps.

Her first job was packing oranges and seasonal fruit, earning four cents ($0.04) a box. She walked one mile to and from work, she did this job for eight years, becoming the packing company's top producer. In pursuit of a better future for herself and her children, she loaded all seven children in a 1959 Chevy with $50 in her pocket and headed to California in search of the American dream, palm trees and the end of the rainbow.

She arrived in Fontana, living with a sister, got a job sewing men's pants in San Bernardino then took employment in a chicken factory, packing chickens on a tray as it moved down the line to have plastic placed over them. She stayed employed for five years earning $2.50 an hour when she left. In 1977, Grace joined the California Employment Training Act (CETA) program and that was a turning point in her life.

She worked hard on her clerical skills and landed a job as a clerk in the Rialto City Clerk's office. This led to a promotion as a clerk in the Rialto Police Department and then another promotion to the treasurer's office. In 1979, Vargas became the Licensing Inspector for Rialto until 1991 when she left city government to enter the realm of private enterprise.

At the age of 59, Grace Vargas crownning professional achievement came after she ran for the Rialto City Council in 1995 and won becoming the 1st Latina to be elected in the history of the city. As a successful politician she became the Mayor of the City of Rialto on November, 2000 and she said "I want to make a difference" her motto is, "I just want to be the best for people and their families."

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LILIAN ROBLES
Elder of the Juaneno Tribe

Lillian Robles was born in Los Angeles on August 20, 1916. She was one of nine children. At age 25, she married Lou Robles, her neighborhood sweetheart. The couple moved to North Long Beach in 1948, which were large fields without roads but plenty of rabbits and coyotes. Robles' earlier years were focused on future generations instead of ancestral grounds. She and Lou raised four children and they opened their doors and hearts to nearly 300 foster children, from infants to early teens, from long to short stays.

In the late 1970's Robles also worked as a community worker for the Long Beach Unified School District, doing liaison tasks for Latino neighborhoods and assisting disadvantaged children so they wouldn't drop out of school. She expanded her horizon through extensive traveling, including visits to South America, China, Australia and other countries. She especially enjoyed camping trips with her family.

"She'd have us be quiet, to listen to the wind and birds" recalled her son, Lou. It was the type of thing she would love doing at the wetland sites, friends recalled. Her husband, Lou; her son, Lou; daughters Rhonda, Irma and Rebecca and six grandchildren survive Robles.

Robles was introduced once to the State Coastal Commission panel as a princess. The petite elder American Indian of the Juaneno tribe based in San Juan Capistrano, was embarrassed by the tribute, but the comment rang true to others who had listened to her impassioned message—the same pleas she made during the past decade.

The archaeological sites in Long Beach and Orange County areas needed to be protected from development. The archaeological sites are often burial grounds for American Indians and Robles' mission in her late years had been to advocate for their protection as historical sites for future generations. Her role in that mission ended April 3, 2001 when she passed away in her Longbeach home with her family at her side, she was 84.

"Lillian Robles was a truly an amazing woman" said Dr. Gene Ruyle, an anthropology professor at Cal-State, Long Beach. "She touched many, many lives," Ruyle and Robles were involved in saving Puvungna, a historic site on the CSULB campus that American Indians believe to be a holy place of origin, a place of creation. She gave voice and vigor to other efforts to save archaeological sites, including those at Hellman Ranch in Seal Beach and at the Bolsa Chica Mesa, adjacent to the wetlands in Huntington Beach.

Josie Gonzales was elected to the Fontana City Council in 1998 and her term will expire in November 2002. Prior to joining the City Council, Mrs. Gonzales was a member of the Planning Commission.

Mrs. Gonzales has owned and operated Mexico Lindo Restaurant in Fontana for 38 years. Mrs. Gonzales attributes the success of Mexico Lindo to hard work and determination to be the very best.

Mrs. Gonzales is married to Jess Macias and are the parents of four children. Mrs. Gonzales is Chairperson of the Fontana Public Financing Authority and Vice Chairperson of the Fontana Housing Authority and Fontana Industrial Development Authority. She also represents Fontana on the following Committees:
• City of Fontana Parks and Recreation
• City of Fontana Chamber of Commerce
• Inland Empire Utilities Agency (Chino Basin) (alternate)
• SCAG Energy & Environment Committee
• Downtown Revitalization Task Force Sub-Committee
• GPAC (General Plan Advisory Committee)
• League of California Cities Legislative Task Force (alternate)

Mrs. Gonzales is also involved in a number of civic and community organizations including the Exchange Club and Woman's Club.

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ar visita www.calteach.com/ad
LYNCHBURG, TENN. - As part of Jack Daniel's national sponsorship of the Vicente and Alejandro Fernandez Lazos Invencibles tour, the company will support the Mexican Cultural Institute through its Tradiciones Hispanas program designed to preserve Hispanic arts and culture in the United States. The tour visits the Universal Amphitheatre on Saturday, November 17 and Sunday, November 18.

In honor of Vicente and Alejandro Fernandez, Jack Daniel's will donate two autographed acoustic guitars to the Mexican Cultural Institute. These unique commemorative items will be auctioned by the organization with proceeds going toward its fine arts instruction programs.

Tradiciones Hispanas was created to support local Hispanic arts organizations that help preserve Hispanic traditions as an extension of Jack Daniel's sponsorship of the historic national Lazos Invencibles concert tour.

“We are honored to play a role in the preservation and advancement of the folkloric arts training for the Los Angeles Latino community by partnering with the Mexican Cultural Institute,” said Karen Sifuentes, Latino Division Marketing Manager for Jack Daniel's.

“The intent of our Tradiciones Hispanas program is to support local Hispanic organizations that promote Latino arts programs and preserve the strong cultural ties within the community.” Added Sifuentes.

“Vicente Fernandez, a native of Jalisco, has served as the undisputed king of traditional Mexican ranchera music since his recording of the standard "Volver Volver" in the 1970's. His nearly 30-year career spans more than 60 albums, dozens of hit singles, movies, five grammy nominations, and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Alejandro is the youngest of three Fernandez sons who has followed in his father's footsteps as an international singing sensation. His first recording with his father was an immediate success, and he followed up with a solo on his father's next album at age 19. He recorded his first album two years later, which was acclaimed for rejuvenating the ranchera style. His most recent albums have broadened his musical horizons with a shift to romantic ballads and songs closer to pop, yet maintaining a strong Mexican influence. Several tracks from his latest release, "Me Estoy Enamorando," have reached Number One, and the album has gone multi-platinum and won a Latin Grammy.
FIESTA NAVIDAD: A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

SAN BERNARDINO, NOVEMBER 21, 2001, Sinfonia Mexicana presents “Fiesta Navidad” on Saturday, December 1, 2001. The 8 PM performance, at the historical California Theatre of Performing Arts, 562 W. 4th Street in San Bernardino, features Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano and the dancers of Ballet Folklorico Ollin. Elizabeth Quintero, San Bernardino sensation, will be guest vocalist.

The Mexican Christmas celebration of Fiesta Navidad is becoming a new tradition for audiences in the United States. Many cities in the West now feature rousing performances of Fiesta Navidad along with the Nutcracker. A festival of music and dance for the entire family, Fiesta Navidad brings the pageantry and excitement of Mexican Christmas traditions to life on stage, beginning with the Fiesta of La Posada, a traditional reenactment of Mary and Joseph’s pilgrimage to Bethlehem on the eve of the birth of Jesus, and concluding with mariachi renditions of American Christmas carols in an audience sing-along. Under the direction of mariachi renditions of American Christmas carols in an audience sing-along. Under the direction of mariachi master Natividad Cano, the Los Angeles-based Mariachi Los Camperos performs regional variations on La Posada celebrations, ranging from popular songs in Michoacan, to the Fiesta Jaliscas, where the mariachi tradition began. Ballet Folklorico Ollin contributes colorful dances from colonial Mexico, Veracruz, Puebla, Tabasco, Oaxaca, and Chiapas.

Natividad Cano, director of Mariachi Los Camperos, was born in Jalisco, Mexico. He joined Mariachi Chapala in Mexico city at age 17 and quickly became the group’s manager. In 1990 he was awarded a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and has been active as a lecturer, advisor and performer for the Tucson International Mariachi Conference. He currently serves as a lecturer in the Department of Ethnomusicology at UCLA.

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano was one of four mariachi groups chosen to collaborate with singer Linda Ronstadt on her best-selling album “Canciones de Mi Padre” (Songs of My Father) as well as her subsequent recording, “Mas Canciones” (More Songs). Mariachi Los Camperos appeared with Ms. Ronstadt and Aaron Neville on the PBS television special, “In Performance at the White House.” They have also been featured on “The Tonight Show” and the 1989 “Grammy Awards”.

Elizabeth Quintero did not take singing seriously at the beginning. She won the opportunity to present her mariachi sound to a live audience at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles and was one of two finalists for the Spotlight Awards in the musical theater voice category. She received a scholarship for her performance. Elizabeth has performed at the White House Cinco de Mayo celebration, for the Democratic Club and on Capital Hill in Washington D.C. She has also performed for Channel 22 and was chosen as one of the top ten performers and recorded one of her songs for the Top 20 C.D.

Formed in 1972 by Virginia Diediker, Ballet Folklorico Ollin is dedicated to preserving Mexico’s rich cultural heritage through music and dance. The Los Angeles-based troupe was invited to perform in the 91st Annual Pasadena Rose Parade, the Dance Kaleidoscope Festival and the Los Angeles Olympic Arts Hispanic Dance Festival; both in 1984. The ensemble was chosen as the opening act for the prestigious Feria Nacional de San Marcos in Aguascalientes, Mexico, and received special recognition for their support of the Arts de Mexico Festival at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Tickets for Fiesta Navidad are now on sale. Prices are $20, $25, $30, and $35. Call (909) 984-3228 or visit our new office at 468 West 5th Street (corner of E and 5th Streets) in San Bernardino.

Dr. Albert Karnig, president, CSUSB, was the keynote speaker at the 7th Annual Scholarship Luncheon at the San Bernardino Hilton. Karnig spoke on the student demographics, expansion of college sites, program development and future plans. The college population for 2001 is 16,000 students with an approximate 28% Hispanic enrollment. Photo by IEHN

HELP MAKE THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FOR A CHILD IN OUR COMMUNITY

Light up the life of a child this Holiday Season. Just a small effort can make a meaningful difference in the life of an at-risk child. The Children’s Fund of San Bernardino is holding its 13th Annual Celebration of Giving, emphasizing various ways for all to participate in helping make this Christmas special for children in their community. Children’s Fund works in collaboration with the Marine Corps Reserve’s Toys for Tots campaign.

There are many ways to help. Participation in the collection or delivery of toy boxes, or offering your business as a site to place collection boxes is greatly needed. Secondly, donate to Children’s Fund in a friend’s or family member’s name, and they will receive a Holiday card to acknowledge this special gift. Many businesses, families or individuals also adopt a family or child by providing them with Holiday gifts recommended by a specific guide list provided by the Fund. Or, we will do the shopping for you. Avoid the chaotic malls by making a direct monetary donation. Your generosity in these areas will help fulfill the special needs of children of all ages.

Finally, many helping hands are needed starting mid-November to help this Christmas vision materialize. Volunteering is a personal and fun opportunity to use spare time meaningfully. Areas of need include toy box distribution and retrieval, gift packaging, inventory/price checking, setting up displays, and assisting case managers while they shop. Don’t hesitate to contact the “Giving hotline at (909) 387-4949 for further information or to sign up. You can make a real difference this Christmas in the Life of a Child.

The Children’s Fund is dedicated to ensuring at-risk children in our community due to abuse, neglect, poverty abandonment, or circumstances receive adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical care, education, and an equal opportunity for social development. The organization is non-profit and all funds received directly benefit the children of our community.

MADD ANNOUNCES FIRST NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

Celebrities, Sports Figures and Key Officials Selected

IRVING, TEXAS – Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) today announced its first National Board of Advisors, a distinguished list of academics, authors, entertainers, musicians and sports figures.

“We greatly appreciate the interest and commitment of our advisory board members in helping MADD further its mission to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking,” said Joseph LoSchiavo, MADD Chairman of the Board. Their influence will help us reach more people with these important messages.”

The MADD National Advisory Board Members include outstanding Hispanics.

Edward James Olmos. An actor, producer, director and community activist, Olmos has received an Academy Award and many other honors during his career. He is executive director of the Lives in Hazard Educational Project, a national gang prevention program funded by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Jaci Velasquez. A 21-year pop/rock/pop/R & B ballad singer, Velasquez has already had a prolific career in the Christian music scene and was subsequently nominated for a Grammy Award in the Latin pop category. Her music crosses the barriers of Latin, pop and Christian.

Raul Yzaguirre. President of the National Council of La Raza, the largest constituency-based national Hispanic organization, leading Hispanic think tank in Washington, D.C., Yzaguirre has appeared on many national shows and is influential in the Hispanic community.

Since MADD formed in 1980, alcohol-related traffic deaths have dropped by more than 40 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. In 1980, alcohol was involved in 57 percent of highway deaths for a total of 29,000 alcohol-related fatalities. Last year more than 16,000 people died in alcohol-related crashes. Each year an estimated 600,000 people are injured in crashes involving alcohol.

MADD is a non-profit organization whose mission is to stop drunk driving; support the victims of this violent crime and to prevent underage drinking. MADD has 600 affiliates and more than two million members and supporters nationwide. For more information visit: www.madd.org

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LATINO LAWYERS GROUP/INLAND COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES HOSTS RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Melissa Pershing, above, Program Counsel for the Legal Services Corporation, Washington, was honored at a reception at the Zacatecas Restaurant, Riverside. LSC, Washington, is the monitoring agency for community legal services in the United States. Pershing, agency's liaison for twelve states including California, spoke on the role of the LSC and the need for legal services for indigents who would not otherwise afford legal representation. Photo by IEHN

Richard Carrero, president of the Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, above, welcomes judges, lawyers and community persons at the reception for Melissa Pershing, Program Counsel for Legal Services Corporation, Washington, at the Zacatecas Restaurant, Riverside. Photo by IEHN

VETERANS HONOR FORMER SERVICEMEN IN REDLANDS MEMORIAL

Wally Sanchez, World War II Army Air Corps veteran (r), was honored at a special Redlands' Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Eternal Flame, Jennie Davis Park, honoring World War II veterans. Julio Martinez, honoree, was unable to attend the ceremony. Isabela (Velo) Lopez, deceased, was the originator of the Eternal Flame at Jennie Davis Park. American Legion Post 650 firing squad with Captain Pete Zavala, performed at the ceremony. At left Cheto Gomez - honoree. Photo by IEHN

Irene Morales, above, director of the Inland Counties Legal Services, reviews the legal services that ICLS provides for indigents in the Inland Empire at the reception at the Zacatecas Restaurant, Riverside. The reception was held for Melissa Pershing, LSC Washington, representative. Photo by IEHN

Armed Forces representatives witnessed the ceremonies honoring World War II veterans on Veterans Day at the Veterans Eternal Flame, Jennie Davis Park, Redlands. Over 500 persons were present for the annual event. Special recognition was given to World War II veterans Cheto Gomez, Wally Sanchez, Julio Martinez and Isabela Lopez and all WWII veterans who were honored at the ceremonies. Photo by IEHN

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 for the following;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bid No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P3002-06 R</td>
<td>&quot;Rideshare to Rails&quot; Commuter</td>
<td>Phil Yenovkian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3002-06 R</td>
<td>Rail Station RideShare Incentive Program</td>
<td>(909) 396-3043</td>
</tr>
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If you have questions or would like a copy of the RFP mailed to you, telephone the contact person. It is the policy of the AQMD to ensure that all businesses including minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, disabled veteran-owned businesses and small businesses have an equitable opportunity to compete for and participate in AQMD contracts.

Purchasing Unit
Camp Fire USA graduated its first students in the English Second Language courses with family and friends witnessing the graduation ceremonies. ESL students receiving certificates (l to r) Babrina Esparza, Elsa Galindo, Patricia Cabrera, Esther Lopez and Guillermina Gandido. Photo by IEHN

On October 26, 2001, Camp Fire USA – San Andreas Council held its first annual Recognition Ceremony honoring the students who had received their GED and Certificate of Completion in ESL (English as a Second Language) and Computer Training classes in 2001. A total of 92 students completed the requirements and received recognition. When asked how she felt about the ESL class she is currently enrolled in, Andrea Trinidad responded, “It’s very important to me because my goal is to become a Social Worker.” Ofelia Cabrera, a student who has completed her GED requirements and is in the testing process, stated that the classes would enable her to have “better opportunities in life.”

Camp Fire USA – San Andreas Council serves San Bernardino and Riverside Counties and receives funding from Jobs and Employment Service Department (JESD) as well as grants from the state, city and federal government and monetary donations from United Way. Camp Fire USA was established in 1948 in the city of San Bernardino and was known as Camp Fire Girls; however, in 1972 boys were included in the program and the name was changed to Camp Fire Boys and Girls.

In 1998, Jerry Butler became the Executive Director and began to institute new programs that would provide services for the entire family. He believes that in order for children to reap the full benefits of Camp Fire programs, the entire family must survive and grow as a unit. The programs that are currently available to adults are: ESL (basic and advanced classes), GED (Spanish and English) and Computer Training. The students in these programs are referred to Camp Fire USA by the San Bernardino County Jobs and Employment Service Department (JESD). In August 2001, the name was changed once again from Camp Fire Boys and Girls to Camp Fire USA in order to reflect the changes.

The keynote speaker at the Recognition Ceremony was Keith Lee, Associate Administrative Officer for JESD. He encouraged the students to continue with their education and quoted statistics showing how wages increase in proportion to the number of years of formal education an individual has.

Butler stated that the quality and dedication of instructors currently employed at Camp Fire USA makes the program a success. When asked about future plans, Butler stated that he plans to remain sensitive to the needs of the community and institute programs to meet those needs as they arise.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Education Association (NEA) and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund today established a formal collaboration to help close the academic achievement gap among the nation’s Hispanic students.

The 2.6 million member NEA is the nation’s largest organization of public school staff. The NALEO Educational Fund is one of the leading national Latino organizations with a constituency of more than 5,400 Latino elected and appointed officials nationwide, more than half of whom are school board members.

“As educators, we know what children need to succeed and one essential ingredient is parental and community involvement,” said John Wilson, executive director of NEA. “That is why we are delighted to work with prominent Hispanic groups, such as NALEO, who can help us connect our educational expertise to their community leaders.”

Arturo Vargas, executive director of NALEO, agreed. “The 2,500 Latinos on school boards throughout the country are ideally situated to close the education gap between Latino and non-Latino children, and NEA is perfectly suited to helping us create real change in the nation’s public school system.”

The NEA-NALEO partnership will focus on support for the NALEO National Education Leadership Initiative (NELI), a recently created project geared to increasing understanding of effective education policy for Latino students among Hispanic school board members. NELI will also promote implementation of education strategies and programs proven effective with the Hispanic community.

More than 90 percent of Hispanic children attend the nation’s public schools, representing nearly 15 percent of the K-12 public school population. While Latino students have become the majority in many urban school districts across the country, their academic achievement lags behind that of other groups — setting the stage for a future crisis in our Information Age economy.

Bob Chase, president of NEA, called the partnership “a win-win for the nation’s educators and Hispanic youth.”

Partnership activities call for:
- establishing a cadre of individuals knowledgeable about the particular needs of Latino students, to cross-train NEA and NALEO members;
- conducting education sessions at each organization’s annual conference in 2002; and
- issuing legislative and policy alerts.

BACA CALLS LOCAL OFFICIALS TO MEETING ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND BIOTERRORISM

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Joe Baca (D-Rialto) announced that he will be calling for a meeting on emergency preparedness and bioterrorism. Congressman Baca is extending an invitation to all state and local elected officials, emergency service personnel, and the public from his congressional district to attend the meeting.

Congressman Baca said, “The reason I am calling this meeting is because I lived September 11th and the Anthrax attacks. We need to be ready for anything and we cannot assess our readiness unless we all get together and share information.” Congressman Baca continued, “I want us all to have a frank discussion. We need to make sure we are ready for anything and to reassure the public of our ability to protect their safety.”

Congressman Baca intends to unveil legislation that he has drafted to improve the state of national, state and local emergency preparedness. Congressman Baca is a member of the Congressional Task Force on Homeland Security and helped write the recently introduced Bioterrorism Protection Act (H.R. 3255).

Congressman Baca said, “I was a witness to these attacks. I saw fighter jets flying overhead as we had to evacuate our nation’s capitol. I saw the smoke rising from the Pentagon and was displaced from my building because it was contaminated with Anthrax. We must be prepared for any future attacks. Preparation is another way we can all help the war effort. We can defeat our enemies by protecting our nation and making sure that we will never be caught unprepared ever again.”

The meeting will be held at San Bernardino Valley College, Friday, December 7, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
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