San Bernardino Education Roundtable honored local educators.

The San Bernardino Education Roundtable celebrated its 8th Annual Golden Apple Awards on March 12th at the Radisson Hotel with a full audience of educators, businesspersons and community-at-large to witness the awards honoring teachers and staff in the San Bernardino City School District, San Bernardino Valley College and Cal-State, San Bernardino.

Cal-State, San Bernardino selected Charlie Tabut, Analyst-programmer in the administrative computing services department, Peter Robertshaw, Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the Anthropology Department, Margaret Doane, Professor of English and Gracie Brown, College of Social and Behavioral Science.

San Bernardino Valley Community recipients included Chris Williams, Division Secretary, Business and Information Technology; Dr. Diane Pfahler, Professor of Psychology; Brian D. Mullgrav, Admissions and Record Clerk III and Ann F. Leal, Professor of Mathematics.

The day-long Conference attracted 2,231 attendees. The Mayor's Education Roundtable was founded in 1988 with the goal of coordinating the educational institutions in the area and recognizing educational personnel that contributes to excellence in education.

CONGRESSMAN BACA AND NALEO SPONSOR LATINO HEALTH FORUM

Congressman Joe Baca, left, Arturo Vargas, right, Executive Director, National Association of Latino Elected Officials and the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center co-sponsored a county-wide Latino Health Forum on March 23, at AMMC, with facilities coordination by Ralph Hernandez, Business Development and Marketing Coordinator. Dominic Nigro, Director, Business Development/Marketing, welcomed the Latino Health Forum, Medical specialists from Sacramento, Washington and the local medical institutions spoke on the general health of the Latino communities in the County of San Bernardino, disparity on access to health agencies/facilities, intervention and prevention of illnesses and economic effect on the lack of health care for Latinos in California. The Latino Health Forum was an outstanding health and medical presentations on current health issues affecting Latinos in California. Photo by IEHN

HISPANIC LIFESTYLE PRESENTS "LATINAS IN ENTERTAINMENT"

Latino Lifestyle Magazine presented the Annual Latina Conference with this year’s theme “Latinas in Entertainment” at the Ontario Hilton on March 22. The day-long Conference attracted women from throughout Southern California. Pictured, above, is Lynette Romero, co-anchor, KTSA News at ten and Mistress of Ceremonies for the event. Romero is active in the California Chicano News Merle Association, National Association of Hispanic Journalists and has covered news on the Columbine High School tragedy to the Elian Gonzalez case in Miami. She received the Golden Mike Award for the series “Public Schools: Working the System.” Photo by IEHN

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Giselle Fernandez, was the keynote speaker at the Annual Latina Conference at the Ontario Hilton. Fernandez is co-anchor on KTSA Morning news and known for her coverage of international news and major events. Owner of a production company and Café Ole, she is currently developing an Internet company. Photo by IEHN
MUSEUM WILL HOST CÉSAR CHÁVEZ FAMILY GARDEN DAY

The César Chávez Family Garden Day is set for 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 30, at the San Bernardino County Museum. It will promote sustainable agriculture and food security, while highlighting resources for home, school and community gardens. The event will debut the Chavez Community Learning Gardens at the museum, which are being created this month by hundreds of area elementary and secondary students participating in an after-school program funded by the Chavez Day of Service and Learning Grant through the Governor's GO SERV office.

According to Chávez, "The end of all education should surely be service to others." To ensure that the values of César Chávez continue to inspire Californians, Governor Gray Davis signed into law Senate Bill 984 (Statutes of 2000, Chapter 213), creating the César Chávez Day of Service and Learning Grant. It is intended to promote service to the communities of California in honor of Chávez's life and work.

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has approved free museum admission to recognize this event, named in honor of the late Latino labor leader, César Chávez.

Nutrition Olympics will be featured at the March 30 event, and conducted by the San Bernardino County Public Health Department's Nutrition Program. Other Participating agencies will include: the Inland Empire Master Gardeners, Master Composters, Master Food Preservers, and the East Valley Resource Conservation District. A vermiculture demonstration will be provided by A&A Worms. Dignitaries will include Chávez's daughter, Liz.

From 11 a.m. to noon March 30, students will showcase their poster displays which highlight grant-related activities involving their respective instructional school gardens and the four community learning gardens, which they are creating.

The after-school program is funded by the Chavez Day of Service and Learning grant, through the Governor's GO SERV office. The $200,000 grant is administered by California State University, San Bernardino, under the direction of Lynn Diaz-Rico, Ph.D., of Highland and co-director Emily Chase Bueermann, Master Gardener of Redlands.

The curriculum, approved last month by the California Department of Education is provided for grades Kindergarten through 12. The state-sponsored web site includes biographies, pictures, audio clips, video clips, and other resources provided to help teachers prepare lessons for this state holiday. The web site is located at: www.chavezday.ca.gov.

The Official state Holiday honoring Chavez, who was born March 31, 1927, occurs this year on April 1. Students from the more than 20 participating schools will celebrate their Service-Learning contributions to the community in a special program held at the museum that day. The April 1st event will feature author Gary Soto. For more information on the school garden program, call Bueermann at 798-6150. Photos and graphics available upon request.
New York Life, with local representatives, posed at their display at the Annual Latina Expo. Photo by lEHN

INHALANTS: A DEADLY HIGH

Experts claim up to 1,000 household products can be abused as “inhalants”—airplane glue, rubber cement, paint thinner, nail polish remover, bleach, kerosene, felt tip markers, butane, gasoline, dry cleaning fluid, spot remover, vegetable cooking spray, and propane. And parents often don’t know about it.

Inhalants may be the first substance a child uses, before marijuana, tobacco or alcohol, often in late childhood or early adolescence. National studies suggest that inhalant abuse reaches its peak at some point during the seventh through ninth grades. The latest government study reports that 5.1 percent of 8th graders and 6.6 percent of 10th graders have abused inhalants in the past year (Monitoring the Future, 2001).

The biggest danger in using inhalants is that kids can die—the first time, the third time or the 100th time. “Sudden Sniffing Death” happens when inhalants disrupt heart rhythms and lead to cardiac arrest. Death can also result from suffocation or fatal injury from car crashes when driving while high. Inhalant use can cause damage to the heart, kidneys, brain, liver and other organs.

Signs and symptoms of inhalant use include: chemical odors on breath or clothing; paint or other stains on face, hands, or clothes; drunk or disoriented appearance; slurred speech, inattentiveness, lack of coordination, hidden empty spray paint or solvent containers; and chemical-soaked rags or clothing.

What can parents do? Put household products in a safe place and clearly mark them "poison." There are also simple, everyday things you can do to keep your kids away from drugs.

• Be absolutely clear with your children that you don’t want them to use inhalants or other drugs. Don’t leave room for interpretation. Talk often—more than once or twice a year—about the dangers of drug and alcohol use.

• Don’t react in a way that will cut off further discussion. If your child says things that challenge your views, respond with a calm discussion of why people use drugs and whether doing so is worth the risk.

• Be involved in your child’s life. Always know where your children are and what they’re doing. Get to know your child’s friends and their parents. Find out what they’re doing. Get to know your child’s friends and their parents. Find out what they’re doing.

• Find time to spend with your child each week.


COLORECTAL CANCER: WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW!

(NAPS)—Growing older is a fact of life. But the risk of colon cancer—America’s second-most common cancer killer—does not have to be. There’s something you can do now.

An estimated 130,000 Americans—men and women—are diagnosed with colorectal cancer each year and approximately 56,000 will die annually; however, research shows that with regular screening and the removal of precancerous polyps or polyps you can prevent colorectal cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, colorectal cancer is most common after the age of 50 but it can strike at much younger ages and the chance of colon cancer increases after the age of 40. Therefore, many national health organizations recommend that all individuals over the age of 50 should be screened for colorectal cancer.

If you are looking for a job, Valley College is the place to be on March 27. The Annual San Bernardino Valley College Job Fair and Career Day will attract more than 80 public and private businesses seeking applicants for a variety of full and part-time positions.

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Some of the employers that are scheduled to participate include American General Finance, Bank of America, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Employment Development Agency, Discovery Toys, Federal Express, San Bernardino Community College, United Parcel Service (UPS) and Kelly Services. Law enforcement and other public agencies will also attend.

Those seeking positions should be prepared to fill out applications and submit personal resumes.

For additional information call Julie K. Kille at (909) 384-8674.

MORE THAN 80 EMPLOYERS SEEK APPLICANTS AT ANNUAL VALLEY COLLEGE JOB FAIR MARCH 27

If you are looking for a job, Valley College is the place to be on March 27. The Annual San Bernardino Valley College Job Fair and Career Day will attract more than 80 public and private businesses seeking applicants for a variety of full and part-time positions.

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Those seeking positions should be prepared to fill out applications and submit personal resumes.

For additional information call Julie K. Kille at (909) 384-8674.

Wednesday, March 27, 2002

CHAMPIONS FOR JUSTICE

To kick off National Fair Housing Month the Fair Housing Council of Riverside County, Inc. will be hosting its First Annual Award Banquet, Champions for Justice, Saturday, April 6 at the Riverside Convention Center, 3443 Orange Street, Riverside, at 6:00 p.m. Honorees were chosen from individuals in the community who have committed their lives to the furtherance of justice, making contributions to change the world/community by making personal sacrifices and have been misunderstood in search of the truth. We are proud to announce the honorees for 2002, Robert M. Holstein, Jr., Esquire, Peter Benavides, The Blindness Support Center, Norm Martin, Parkview Community Hospital, Dr. Mustafa Kuko, Islamic Academy of Riverside, Father W. Clarke Prescott, All Saints Community Church and Rabbi Harold Caminker, Temple Beth Al. For tickets and further information please call 909-682-6581.

CONGRESSMAN BACA ANNOUNCES OFFICE HOURS IN FONTANA

Congressman Joe Baca has announced one of his district office staff members to work from a satellite location near the Fontana City Hall on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Ruby Sierra Ramirez, Congressional Assistant, will be working from 16917A Lerner Lane, Fontana, California every Wednesday morning. In fulfilling his commitment to be of greater service to his constituents, Congressman Baca has made it more convenient for his constituents in Fontana and the surrounding communities to get assistance with federal matters. It is also his intent to facilitate opportunities for open communication between the residents of Fontana and his office staff.

Mrs. Ruby Sierra Ramirez, a senior staff member, is very familiar with the concerns and issues in Fontana as a long-term resident of Fontana. She is the telephone number of the satellite office in Fontana is (909) 350-6520.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

635 120 - 84 600yr.
Req. 5 yrs. prof. admin. exp. & Bach. Deg. in public or bus. admin., or rel. area
from an accredited college or univ. Master's Deg. may sub. for 1 yr. req. exp. of 5 yrs.
Spanish spoken. Must poss. a valid Calif. Motor Vehr. Oper. Lic. CITY APPLICATION REQUIRED.
Apply by 4/26/02 to:

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Human Resources Department
3780 Market Street • Riverside, CA 92501
(909) 826-5808 • (909) 826-2515 - TDD
www.ci.riverside.ca.us

EDE
Inland Empire Hispanic News

SOMOS HERMANAS UNIDAS GRADUATES CLASS

Samos Hermanas Unidas, SHU Business and Education Institute, a community-based non-profit corporation with sites located in Colton and Redlands, announced that Guajome Park Academy, Charter School #69, an educational institute, graduated its 2001 Winter students and presented with high school diplomas. To date, 30 students have graduated.

Guajome Park Academy is known for its academic excellence and in a collaborative partnership with SHU Business and Education Institute, has provided SHU with approximately $250,000 in computer hardware, software and computer networking infrastructure.

Students enrolled at SHU/GPA in a curriculum of English, mathematics and technology with added community service and work experience. The portfolio-based curriculum is work based and focuses on the individual student’s entrepreneurial and employment skills.

Graduates have the opportunity to continue into higher education through the DeAnza College, established as a concurrent community college experience within SHU Business and Education Institute.

The graduating students are: Trini Aguilar, Teresa Amescua, Lucia Bernal, Richard Rio Borrego, Rocío X. Chavez, Guillermina Colon, Ignacia Gonzalez, Mario Enrique Hernandez, Ester Lazo, Mary Luna, Jesús Martínez, Luis Gerardo Martínez, Cecilia Mora, Elizabeth Moreno, Rosemary Navarro, Avelino Joey Ortiz, Denise Perea, Donnie Perea, Nicholas Quintana, Isabel Ramirez, Geneva Romero, Mara G. Sanchez, María Del Carmen Sanchez, Dennis Torres and Carlos Ivan Vargas.

Guajome Park Academy, Escondido, recently conducted commencement ceremonies for its winter graduating class. Pictured above is a portion of the graduating class posing after graduation. GPA is a collaborative educational institution with SHU Business and Education Institute that offers educational opportunities for persons motivated to receive a high school education.

Students are all smiles after receiving diplomas at commencement ceremonies at Guajome Park Academy, Escondido. GPA has excellent academic courses in preparation for higher education.

The graduating students at Guajome Park Academy, Escondido, are proud of their accomplishment after the graduation ceremonies. Many of the students will continue their education in their career ladders.

Wednesday, March 27, 2002

NEA JOINS THE NATION’S LEADING HISPANIC ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE HISPANIC EMPOWERMENT

For the first time in its history, the National Education Association (NEA) is partnering with the nation’s leading Hispanic organizations to promote Latino political empowerment. Some 300 Hispanic community activists will gather in Estes Park, Colorado, this weekend for an in-depth grassroots training on how to galvanize local support for candidates and legislation that address Latino concerns.

NEA co-hosted the seminar with the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) Education Fund, National Council of La Raza, the local LA RAZA, and the Colorado Education Association. In addition, representatives of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the National Association of Bilingual Education (NABE) will participate.

“Our hope is to encourage Latino activists to join forces and realize the significant power they can wield in their communities,” said Bob Chase, president of the 2.6 million member NEA, the nation’s largest organization of teachers and other school professionals. “Empowering Hispanic voices will enrich America’s democracy and help provide a quality education for every child.”

“NEA is a logical partner in this seminar,” Chase explained. “Public education is the foundation of American democracy, empowering citizens with the knowledge and values that build our nation’s social capital.”

A topflight roster of national leaders and political strategists, such as former White House Presidential Aide Mickey Ibarra and California’s former Speaker of the House Antonio Villaraigosa, will share their experiences in the political arena and urge local efforts to empower the Hispanic community through the ballot box.

Themes for the seminar include campaign planning and strategy, coalition building, communicating with the media and the public and encouraging voter participation.

More than 90 percent of Hispanic children attend the nation’s public schools, representing about 15 percent of the K-12 public school population. Although Latino students have become the majority in many public school districts across the country, their academic achievement lags behind that of other groups.

In an effort to help close the academic achievement gap among the nation’s Hispanic students, NEA has established formal collaborations with the participating organizations, most recently with the NALEO Educational Fund. The Fund represents a constituency of more than 5,400 Latino elected and appointed officials nationwide, more than half of whom are school board members.

The National Education Association is the nation’s largest professional employee organization, representing 2.6 million elementary and secondary teachers, higher education faculty, education support professionals, school administrators, retired educators and students preparing to become teachers.

SEEKING SITES FOR FREE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR YOUTH

The city of San Bernardino Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department will sponsor a FREE Summer Food Service Program. This program is federally funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and provides free lunches to needy youth 18 years of age and under.

The City of San Bernardino is now seeking sites for this year’s program. Potential feeding sites may be governmental, non-profit agencies, community based organizations, churches, self help programs, apartment complexes, and programs that are geared to serve disadvantaged youth. Sites may be located in the City of San Bernardino, Colton, Fontana, Highland, Rialto, Mentone and Redlands. The program will begin Monday, June 24, 2002. For additional information, call (909) 384-5070.

To Stop Smoking
Start Here.

1-800-ACS-2345 www.cancer.org
Panic Roundtable and notices from occurring in the activities listed.

The Focus 92411 is seeking applications for board members. The organization's mission is to identify resources to improve the quality of life and health for residents living or working in the 92411 community. Interested persons may submit applications to Focus 92411, P.O. Box 7578, San Bernardino, CA 92411, (909) 787-2232.

The 17th Annual Inland Empire Future Leaders Camp will be held at the Desert Science Center in Idyllwild on August 5-10. Contact State Senator Lora Cosden at (909) 384-5133 for more information.

The Ramona/Alessandro Alumni Association is seeking high school seniors that are related to former students who attended Ramona Elementary or Alessandro Junior High School from 1925 to 1953. Identified relatives are eligible to apply for scholarships to the Ramona/Alessandro Alumni Association. For more information contact President Micaela Cruz at (909) 887-9296 or Vice-President Mauro Sanchez (909) 875-7326.

Projecto Calpulli/Calpulli Project is seeking responsible, dedicated college students in the Inland Empire area (UCR/SCVC, CSUSB, RCC) that are interested in volunteering for Liberia del Pueblo. For more information call (909) 889-5551.

March 2002

March 30th, UC Riverside's M.E.A. Ch. is hosting the First Annual Cesar Chavez Ski Fun Run/Walk-A-Thon from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m. The Run/Walkathon will begin at the University of California Riverside Track Field, located at the corner of Cherry and Mission. For more information please contact Israel Gonzales at the Chicano Student Program office, (909) 787-3821.

April 2002

April 20th, Children's Fund will hold its 10th Annual Rubber Duck Race at the San Bernardino County Government Center, 385 No. Arrowhead, from 11 to 12:30 PM. Persons are encouraged to adopt a duck for $5 and a chance to win a 2002 PT Cruiser, courtesy of Shaver Auto. RSVP at 837-4949.

April 4th, Fourth Annual Cesar Chavez Prayer Breakfast Birthday Tribute to be held at the Gente Hall at the State of California's Southern California Regional Center will be guest speaker is Arturo Rodriguez President of the UWFF. Special arrangement by Lalo Guerrero and La Familia Romero.

Cost: $10.00 per person. For more information or to RSVP contact the Inland Counties Hispanic Roundtable at (909) 885-5777 or online at WEBSITE.

April 5th, 7th Annual Entrepreneurial Business Conference "Staying in Power in Today's Economy" pre-registered are only $40.00. Special guest is Robert孤立, Hall of State San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles. IEC accepts donations from private individuals, businesses, foundations and community organizations. Applications for the program are currently being accepted. For more information contact Tom Rivera at Cal State San Bernardino, (909) 880-9444 email: trivera@csusb.edu.

The Ramona/Alessandro Alumni Association is hosting its 7th Annual Entrepreneurial Business Conference "Staying in Power in Today's Economy". Confirmed speakers are: Honorable Judge Gilbert Guevara, County Judge, Riverside; Dr. Tom Rivera, President, CSUSB, ROC; and Dr. Robert Isotalo, President, CSUSB, ROC. The conference is free. The event will be held at the Riverside Convention Center, 5443 Orange Street, Riverside 92501. For more information or to RSVP contact (909) 680-6705.

April 13th, The Latino Book and Family Festival, hosted by Edward James Olmos, will be held at the San Diego Convention Center from 10:00 to 6:00 PM, located at Sails Pavilion 111 West Harbor Drive, San Diego. Admission is free.

April 13th, The Inland Empire Scholarship Fund has scheduled the Fourth Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner at the University of California Riverside, commons cafeteria. The tax-deductible ticket donations is $50.00 per person. All proceeds will go to the IESF. For more information or to RSVP contact Dr. Manuela Sosa at (909) 687-8181 (day) or (909) 825-8434 (night).

April 13th, The Rape Crisis Center and YWCA of Riverside is presenting "WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE FOR HISPANICAS" at the Riverside YWCA, 4172 Magnolia Ave, Riverside from 10 to 2 PM (also on April 20th.) Instructor is Maria Calzada. It is open to all women. Registration is required. The workshop is free. For more information call (909) 687-9922.

April 14th, The City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor the City of San Bernardino will honor 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LATINO NETWORK CELEBRATES 5TH ANNUAL CELEBRACIÓN DE LA MUJER

The Latino Network of Riverside recently held its 5th Annual Celebración De La Mujer at the Zacatecas Café, Riverside. Pictured above (top 6) are 2002 awardees: Olga Monroy, Kathleen Sanchez, Alice Aguilier Emerson, Michelle Cardenas, Nancy Castillo and Lourdes Martinez.

Over 60 community persons joined the Latino Network (LaNet) to celebrate its 5th Annual Celebración De La Mujer Awards Luncheon on March 15th held at the Zacatecas Café, Riverside. Alfredo Figueroa, director of UCR’s Chicano Student Center, was master of ceremonies for the event.

LaNet selected the following candidates for Latinas of the Year:

Olga Monroy
Olga Monroy has an extended tenure in the Riverside Unified School District as secretary and has held positions in the Title VII Program, Longfellow Elementary School and currently is the principal’s secretary at University Heights Middle School.

Monroy is acknowledged as an excellent secretary and outstanding organizer. She is known for extending her ability to “train” new teachers and staff in whatever position she holds. Additionally, she has been instrumental in working with Spanish-speaking families, and understanding how to communicate with students and parents and when necessary, becoming a referral to resources in the community.

Monroy has organized food drives and helped volunteers deliver food baskets without offending families. She embodies the attributes of loyalty, hardworking, efficiency, and a great sense of humor and contributes toward a productive school environment. Monroy is a founding member of the Latina Women’s Health Forum.

Kathleen M. Sanchez
Kathleen M. Sanchez is Assistant Principal at Abraham Lincoln High School in Riverside. Sanchez is known for taking time to become acquainted with students and parents. She continues, on a daily basis, to develop better ways to help students in their struggles. A fair person to everyone regardless of color, she neverethless demonstrates a firm demeanor when necessary.

The high school serves students from the Eastside and their parents. Prior to her current tenure, Sanchez was a counselor at University Heights Middle School.

Alice Aguilier Emerson
Alice Aguilier Emerson was born and raised in Riverside, attending Irving Elementary School (now Lincoln High School), graduating from St. De Sales High School, and was in the first graduating R.N. class at Riverside City College. She received a B.A. from Long Beach State College in Nursing.

Involved in the education field as a public health nurse for over 39 years, Emerson has worked as an emergency room nurse at Riverside Community Hospital for over 30 years on a part-time basis. On numerous occasions, Monroe has acted as an interpreter for patients being confronted with medical situations.

Emerson holds the distinction of being the only bi-lingual nurse in the school district and is considered an important asset in communicating with Spanish-speaking parents and students. She is known for her dedication and loyalty to her profession and promotion of good medical care for every child.

Michelle Cardenas
Michelle Cardenas, a UCR student, is well known for her volunteerism and organizational skills. Cardenas has organized numerous special events for youth, promoting higher education and advocating for social change. She is currently involved in the coordination of community outreach efforts for the National Alliance for Human Rights and in organizing a forum concerning violence against women.

Cardenas is also involved as a coordinator for MECBA, organizing efforts at increasing educational equity and access, actively participated in the annual Chicano/Latino Youth Conference, Community College Day, Dia Del Niño and MEChA Empowerment Conference, in addition to volunteering as a speaker and presenter at local schools.

Cardenas has been effective with at-risk female students who are emotionally moved by her life experiences and personal accomplishments. She does not allow the responsibility of being a teenage mother to hinder her educational pursuits.

Cardenas is a sincere individual, role model and outstanding motivator.

Nancy Castillo
Nancy Castillo is a Police Service Representative for the Riverside Police Department and during six years of service has spent countless hours providing information to students, seniors and residents in the areas of cultural awareness, personal safety, neighborhood watch, traffic safety and crime-free housing.

Castillo is involved with El Protector Program, a program that provides cultural outreach/education to Latinos through events scheduled throughout the year and the National Night Out, a city-wide annual neighborhood outreach and community engagement.

Her additional volunteer work includes mentoring elementary school students, distributes food baskets to needy persons and toy drives during the Christmas holidays.

Lourdes Martinez
Despite personal challenges of having a visual impairment, Martinez has been able to overcome obstacles and continue to have a commitment and dedication to the special education of persons with visual impairments.

Martinez has been instrumental in bridging the gap by providing services to the Spanish-speaking population, a segment that has been underserved in the past. She is employed in the Blindness Support Services, a non-profit organization serving the blind visually impaired in Riverside, president of the Inland Empire Chapter of the California Council for the Blind and vice chair of the Riverside Advisory Committee on Disability issues.

Martinez has demonstrated leadership, compassion and advocacy for the rights of the blind/visually impaired segment of the population.

LaNet, a non-profit community based group, is composed of community activists that meet on a bi-monthly basis to review issues affecting the Latino community. The 10-year organization advocates the resolution of issues that are of critical importance to the community in education, social and economic areas. LaNet presents position papers and recommendations to appropriate governmental agencies, private enterprises or socio-economic and educational community agencies.

In addition, LaNet organizes cultural, education and health events and networking with governmental and community groups.

Note: The Inland Empire Hispanic News endorses the selection of Latinos by the Latino Network and congratulates the awardees for their professional and individual accomplishments.

HISPANIC LIFESTYLE PRESENTS “LATINAS IN ENTERTAINMENT”

Jackie Guerru, (second from right) currently on the TV weekly family series, “American Family” and cast in the movie, Salena, signs autographs for fans at the Annual Latina Conference. Photo by IEHN
BRENDA SALAS-A YOUNG ROLE MODEL

Brenda Salas, above, was the youngest candidate elected to the Banning City Council in January 2001, and one of the youngest elected officials in the State of California. Salas is considered an outstanding role model for young adults, and a favorite speaker at political rallies. Photo by IEHN

Brenda Salas created unique political history when she was elected to the Banning City Council in January 2001, at the early age of 23. At that time, Salas was the youngest councilperson in Banning's history and one of the youngest in the State of California!

Salas stated during that campaign that her effort to be elected was a grassroots effort with family, friends and student involvement, the latter from the Banning High School. In a field of eight candidates, she came in with 2, 388 votes or 12.4% of the total vote.

"Being on the city council is a great honor for me. Representing the hopes, dreams and ideas of individuals is something to live for. This is like an extended family," she stated at the time.

The oldest of five brothers and sisters, Salas education goal is obtain a BA Degree in Government/Political Science.

Prior to being elected to the Banning City Council, Salas was involved as a planning commissioner, poll inspector, interned in Senator Barbara Boxer's office and State Superintendent Delane Eastin's office, assisted in the AVUSD ESL Programs at Vista Unified School District and the Banning School District.

Salas is involved in the community and church. She is a song writer and a member of the Screen Actors Guild. Salas is considered an outstanding role model for young women and is in demand to speak before youth groups and political gatherings.

LOCAL WOMAN/ACTIVIST ACHIEVES GOAL

Jennifer Maria Kersey, San Bernardino resident achieves goal as attorney and currently Associate at O'Melveny and Myers at Los Angeles. Photo courtesy of Ms. Kersey

Jennifer Maria Kersey, daughter of Bernard and Armida Porras Kersey and granddaughter of the late Mario Porras, has packed a lifetime of experiences during a relatively short life.

Kersey was raised in San Bernardino, graduated as salutatorian from Aquinas High School in 1992. During her school years, she was in the Varsity tennis team, Key Club student, National Honor Society, California Scholastic Federation, Spanish Honor Society, McCha president and was a congressional page for six months, sponsored by the late Congressman George Brown.

Enrolled at Stanford, Kersey graduated in 1996 with a BA in Political Science (honors). During her university tenure, she was involved in Stanford In Government, Kappa Kappa Gamma, National Women's Political Caucus, two summers as intern in Washington (and an intern for Senator Mosely-Braun) studied in Florence, Italy, worked as a congressional page for six months, sponsored by the late Congressman George Brown.

Enrolled at Stanford, Kersey graduated in 1996 with a BA in Political Science (honors). During her university tenure, she was involved in Stanford In Government, Kappa Kappa Gamma, National Women's Political Caucus, two summers as intern in Washington (and an intern for Senator Mosely-Braun) studied in Florence, Italy, worked as a congressional page for six months, sponsored by the late Congressman George Brown.

Kersey enrolled at Georgetown Law Center in 1997, and involved in Student Ambassadors, Student Bar Association, Italian Law Society, International Law Society, Hispanic Bar Association and Georgetown Law Democrats. During the summers, she studied law in Florence, Italy, worked at Milan as a summer associate. During her second year, she became an associate at O'Melveny and Myers and Searsman and Sterling in New York. She later became president of the Student Bar Association while continuing her law studies.

After graduation in May, 2000, Kersey took the California Bar in July. Later, she and friends traveled in six countries prior to working as an Associate at O'Melveny and Myers.

and in 1997, organized the local chapter of the Mexican-American Political Association.

As a result of the resignation of Rialto Police Chief Dennis Hegwood, an investigation of racism and discrimination within the police department was conducted by a coalition of MAPA, NAACP and the Nation of Atleurs, resulting in a suit with the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of Chicano and African-American police officers. The successful suit resulted in the participation of those groups in the selection of a new police chief, reform of the police department and the implementation of a Human Relations Commission.

"This positive action of restoring the respect of the police department and its responsibility to the residents was to me, a great accomplishment of which I'm proud of," she stated.

Ortega received an AA in General Education from San Bernardino Valley College, and will be graduating in June 2002, from Cal-State, San Bernardino, with a BA in English and Minor in Ethnic Studies. She plans to get an MA in Chicano Studies and obtain a teaching credentials. Her career goal is to teach high school or college.

Ortega continues her involvement in Rialto's Cinco de Mayo, Cesar Chavez Prayer Breakfast and a priority in reducing the dropout of high school students and incorporating Chicano/Mexican-American history and culture into the school's curriculum.

"I strongly believe that God has a purpose for my life and has blessed me with a compassionate heart to feel for people and social issues. This is what fuels me to take action. I would like to feel that the day I leave this world, that I made a difference."

HISPANIC LIFESTYLE PRESENTS "LATINAS IN ENTERTAINMENT"

Joy Enriquez, left, appearing in the TV weekly "Seventh Heaven" as a recording artist, posed with fan, Erica Quevedo at the Annual Latina Conference. Photo by IEHN

Dee Ortega, lifelong activist, above, organizer and president of the Rialto chapter of MAPA. Ortega was part of a consortium that investigated the Rialto Police Department, that resulted in the reorganization of that law enforcement agency. Photo by IEHN
LATINO TURNOUT SETS NEW RECORD FOR DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY IN TEXAS

SAN ANTONIO, TX – Texas Latinos set a new record for votes east in a Democratic primary recording 345,340 votes. According to a preliminary WCVI analysis conducted of the county voter returns, Latinos comprised 32.1 to 36% of the total votes cast. The analysis consisted of the top 25 counties in the state of Texas in terms of total population, Latino population, total voter registration, and Spanish-surname voter registration. WCVI concludes that Latino voters represented 33.6% of all votes cast in the Democratic primary, breaking the previous high of 30% in the ’82 Democratic Primary.

The preliminary WCVI analysis found that 17.2% of all Latino registered voters throughout the state cast ballots in the 2002 Democratic Primary, double the statewide Democratic turnout of 1.027 million ballots or 8.4% turnout. The historic Latino turnout is underscored by one of the lowest Democratic turnouts in the past four primaries, coming under turnout figures in ’94 (1.036 million ballots or 11.47% turnout) and ’90 (1.487 million ballots or 17.95% turnout) only beating ’98’s record low of 665,000 ballots or 5.95% turnout. Without historic Latino turnout numbers invigorating the ’02 primary election, turnout figures may have reached new lows.

WCVI is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that specializes in voter research and public policy advocacy on issues and elections related to Latino and other minority communities. For more information please call Robert Aguinaga at (210) 977-8759. Also refer to our website for more data and information: www.wcvi.org.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ANNOUNCES COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SAN BERNARDINO POLICE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs announced that it has reached a cooperative agreement with the San Bernardino Police Department to help fund the Department’s Internet Crimes Against Children initiative. An allocation of $45,000 will be made to help the Department pay for training, equipment, investigations, and education programs relating to internet crimes that involve children.

“As technology becomes more sophisticated, so does the ability of criminals to conduct illegal activity in cyberspace,” said Representative Joe Baca (D-Rialto). “It’s important that our local police be given every tool they need to help protect our children from the dangers of internet crime.”
The San Bernardino Arts Council held its 6th Annual Young Artists Gallery on March 15, where over one hundred students throughout the Inland Empire had an opportunity to exhibit their work.

In coordination with RIMS California Arts Council and the County Superintendent of Schools, the Arts Council presented winners with certificates at an awards ceremony at the County Government Center on March 15. The total number of art work submitted for review was 218, and 105 exhibitions were juried into exhibitions.

Rim of the World High School students received the most awards; High school teachers with students receiving the most awards: Gerry Van Steet-3 and Cherie Little-3; district with teachers receiving the most total awards- Rim of the World with 8; Junior high teachers with students receiving most awards-David Wescott; Best of Show high school-Redlands East Valley, student Adam deBoer, and Best of Show middle school-MP Henck and Jon Freeberg.

The art exhibit is the brainchild of two art teachers, Julie Tabler (San Bernardino High School) and David Wescott (MP Henck Intermediate School. Five years ago they sought assistance of the Arts Education Network to develop a countywide showcase for talented art students.

The art exhibit will run through April 11th at the County Government Center, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino.

The San Bernardino Arts Council's 6th Annual Young Artists Gallery will be on display at the County Government Center until April 11th. Photo by IEHN

Lauren Cercedes, 12th grade student at Rim of the World High School, received 3rd place in category V-three dimensional at the 6th Annual Young Artists Gallery. Cercedes is a 3.0 GPA student and plans a career in law enforcement.

Erik Cruz, Fontana High School student, received 3rd place in category III-two dimensional at the 6th Annual Young Artists Gallery. The art event is a cooperative project of the San Bernardino Arts Council, RIMS Art Council and the County Superintendent of Schools. Photo by IEHN

The art exhibit is the brainchild of two art teachers, Julie Tabler (San Bernardino High School) and David Wescott (MP Henck Intermediate School. Five years ago they sought assistance of the Arts Education Network to develop a countywide showcase for talented art students.

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Colon cancer can be easily prevented, yet it remains the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States and will claim nearly 57,000 American lives this year. In Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, more than 1,400 adults will be diagnosed with colon cancer this year, and more than 500 will die. According to the American Cancer Society, the nation’s leading voluntary health organization, many of those lives could be saved if people better understood the risks for the disease and got tested regularly. Colon cancer screening tests identify suspicious or pre-cancerous polyps, which can be removed before they develop into a serious health problem.

“Routine colon cancer testing can actually prevent the disease from occurring," said Terry Lynn, M.S.W., Regional Council Chair of the Desert Sierra Region of the American Cancer Society. "Societal roadblocks, colon cancer an embarrassing topic to vary for other reasons, many doctors do not discuss the issue with patients at risk for the disease, including those 50 or older and African Americans." With colon cancer testing, we can see parallels with where Pap testing was 60 years ago," said Durando D. Brooks, MD, MPH, director of colon cancer programs at the American Cancer Society’s National Home Office. "Once Pap testing became widely discussed and implemented, the beneficial results in preventing cervical cancers were clearly evident. Likewise, we could expect the same widespread prevention success with colon cancer if doctors openly discuss the subject with their patients and urge them to get the recommended test." Preventing colon cancer altogether through testing is the ideal outcome, but early detection of the disease also yields important health benefits. Nationally, people whose colon cancers are found at an early stage through testing have five-year survival rates of 90 percent. However, only 37 percent of colon cancers are detected in the earliest stages. Of those whose cancers are found at late stage, the five-year survival rate is less than 10 percent.

This March, as the nation observes the third annual National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, the American Cancer Society is boosting efforts to increase colon cancer testing and to eliminate the taboo associated with talking about the disease — for the public and medical community. Working with the Advertising Council, the Society has rolled out an extensive public service advertising campaign featuring “Polyp Man.” Appearing in ads in a conspicuous red suit, Polyp Man makes viewers’ attention and cuts through barriers with the use of humor, while getting across the simple truth: Colon Cancer: Get the test. Get the polyp. Get the cure. Print and television ads began running in January, with peak visibility occurring this month.

“It is important for everyone over 50 to discuss screening for colon cancer with their doctor, and to not be embarrassed about that conversation,” continued Lynn.

Both men and women are at risk for colon cancer. Personal risk factors include:
- Age — Much diagnosed are 50 or older
- Race — African Americans are at greater risk
- Personal or family history of colon cancer
- Personal or family history of intestinal polyps
- Personal history of inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative or Crohn’s colitis)
- Certain genetic factors (familial adenomatous polyposis, Gardner’s syndrome, hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer, Ashkenazi Jewish descent)
- Smoking or use of other tobacco products
- Physical inactivity
- Diets high in red meat

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service. For information about cancer, call toll-free anytime 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit the American Cancer Society Web site at www.cancer.org.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY GUIDELINES FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF COLON CANCER**

Beginning at age 50, the American Cancer Society recommends men and women follow one of the following five testing options:
- Yearly fecal occult blood test (FOBT)
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years
- Yearly FOBT and flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years (preferred over either option alone)
- Double contrast barium enema every five years
- Colonoscopy every 10 years

Note: Flexible sigmoidoscopy together with FOBT is preferred when compared to FOBT or flexible sigmoidoscopy alone.

- All positive tests should be followed up with colonoscopy.
- People should begin colon cancer testing earlier and/or undergo testing more often if they have any of the following colon cancer factors:
  - Personal history or family history of colon cancer
  - Personal or family history of intestinal polyps
  - Personal history of inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative or Crohn’s colitis)
  - Certain genetic factors (familial adenomatous polyposis, Gardner’s syndrome, hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer, Ashkenazi Jewish descent)
WASHINGTON, D.C. — Yesterday, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives passed a budget that will spend 1.8 trillion from the Social Security trust fund. "Over the past several years, both parties in Congress have voted five times to put the Social Security trust fund in a lock box," said Rep. Joe Baca (CA-42). "The Republican budget resolution will break last year's bipartisan promise to protect Social Security by raiding the Social Security surplus in order to project a balanced budget."

The House Republican Budget is a five-year plan that fails the test of a real 10-year budget plan. Instead of protecting Social Security, this budget raids $1.8 trillion from the trust fund for the next ten years. And it does not provide for a serious Medicare prescription drug plan for all seniors as promised by House Republicans.

"How are seniors going to pay for healthcare, housing, and prescription drugs and still be able to eat?" said Rep. Baca. "We must do right by them. Social Security provides the safety net that allows our seniors to live independently with dignity."

"Protecting Social Security is the Democrats' number one priority. American working families have earned the right to a secure retirement. Let's not gamble with Social Security just before the Baby Boomers retire in 2008."

"This Republican budget fails to balance the budget, fails to protect Social Security and fails to provide adequate funding for Medicare prescription drugs," said Rep. Baca. "And, it does not come close to meeting the needs of retirees who are less likely to have private pension benefits. We need a budget that is inclusive of all Americans."

MEXICAN FOLKLORE DANCE PROJECT TO BE INITIATED

Central City Lutheran Mission, in coordination with the Consulate of Mexico in San Bernardino, announces the initiation of a Mexican Folkloric Dance Project that will begin April 2, 2002. The project is titled "Tradiciones y Raices" (traditions and roots) and will promote Mexican Culture, Traditions and Folk Dance and help keep our community interested in the diversity of our culture and keep it alive outside Mexico.

Maria E. Coronel, a Dance Performer Choreographer will direct the project and give folklore dance lessons. Maria started her trajectory with The Mexican Folkloric Dance Company of Chicago in the 1980's and was a member of the Ballet Folklorico Nacional de Mexico in the 1990's. Recently Maria participated in an intensive course with Ana Maria Garza, coordinator of the Ballet Folklorico Nacional de Mexico. Maria has a BA in Arts from Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois.

All interested in participating in this program are invited to an organizing meeting to be held at 7 p.m. on March 25th at Central City Lutheran Mission. Dance classes will begin on Tuesday, April 2nd. The cost for participation is $20 per month per family. No one will be refused participation because of a lack of funds.

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San Bernardino County Treasurer-Tax Collector Dick Larsen wants to remind you of the April 10th Deadline for 2nd Installments

Property Tax Payments may be made:

• By Credit Card through the Automated Phone Service at (909) 387-8308

• By Credit Card over the Internet at www.mytaxcollector.com

• By mail with your tax bill stub. Payments must be postmarked by April 10th

• Or in person at our office 172 West Third St, San Bernardino.

For more information visit www.mytaxcollector.com or call (909) 387-8308.
What is EOP?
The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) helps improve access and retention of low-income and educationally disadvantaged students who demonstrate the potential to complete a baccalaureate degree program.

EOP Services at CSUSB
• Academic Counseling • Advisement • Career Counseling • Testing • Counseling • Tutoring • Student Leadership Club • Graduate School Workshops

How Do I Apply?
If you meet the income guidelines, and are interested in applying to the EOP program at CSUSB, see a counselor at your school, or call our office to request an EOP application.

When is the Deadline?
The deadline to submit forms for EOP is May 1, 2002. For more information, please call (909) 885-5842 and ask for Mario. You may visit us in University Hall, Room 405 or our EOP web page at http://ug3.csusb.edu/eop/index.htm.

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