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Hispanic News

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ICHR APPOINTS ALBERT ROMAN AS PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

The Inland Counties Hispanic Roundtable Executive Board has appointed Albert Roman as interim president and director of the Inland Counties Hispanic Roundtable, a San Bernardino community-based organization. Ray Quinto, retiring president, said, "We felt that Albert Roman is highly qualified in the leadership role of interim president for the 2003 calendar year and as director of ICHR. He will be responsible for continuing the goals previously established and for program development and implementation." Roman received a B.A. in Political Science from UCR and M.A. in Public Administration from the University of La Verne. A resident of Rialto, he recently served as campaign manager for Senator Nell Soto in the November election. He previously served as field representative for Senator Soto, assisting citizens with problems dealing with state agencies, representing Senator Soto at community events, organizing... Continue on Page 3

FLORENTINO GARZA HONORED FOR 'FORTITUDE'

San Bernardino County Bar Association Unveils Award Named for Local Legal Icon

By J'amy Pacheco

San Bernardino County attorney Florentino Garza was honored by the San Bernardino County Bar Association, which named a new award after the lawyer. The Florentino Garza Fortitude Award was unveiled Thursday during the organization’s annual installation dinner, held at the University of Redlands.

San Bernardino Superior Court Judge Patrick Morris introduced the award, which is to be presented to lawyers designated as having overcome substantial hardship in order to practice law. No recipient was named for this year... Continue on Page 4

CALIFORNIA YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION SCORECARD RELEASED; SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY RANKED POORLY

County Receives "D" for Youth Safety, "D" for Providing Positive Choices for Youth

San Bernardino County received the lowest ranking in a statewide report released today measuring progress towards preventing youth violence. "Choices for Youth: A Public Education Campaign to Prevent Violence Against Youth" issued the report, which grades counties on the state of youth safety and efforts to provide youth with positive choices.

San Bernardino County scored a "D" for the state of youth safety. Only Alameda County received as low a grade in this category. The county also... Continue on Page 6

VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE - PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS

By Father Patricio Guillen

Every year on December 12, The Virgen de Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, is celebrated in San Bernardino and throughout the Americas. Catholics gather to commemorate and celebrate her apparitions and the commission she gave to Juan Diego to build a shrine in the very spot where the last battle between the Spanish soldiers and Aztec warriors took place in 1521... Continue on Page 9
A sophisticated, high-tech twist on the old saying, "where there's smoke, there's fire." May prove to be a promising new weapon in the battle to stop teen smoking, as well as other dangerous behaviors confronted by America's children. Rather than focusing on the health risks or the physical aspects of nicotine addiction, this new approach focuses on helping teens work through the underlying anxieties, depression, peer issues and personal problems that lead to their smoking in the first place.

Based on 120 years of work with kids, the national children's crisis charity KidsPeace developed a Web site, www.TeenCentral.net, which helps older children and teens to deal with the pressures and crises of growing up. The site offers help and resources that tie them to smoking, such as depression or the failure to fit in. This is a key aspect that warnings, nicotine patches or gum simply can't address.

"This new approach holds tremendous promise because it works on the total child," said KidsPeace President and CEO C.T. O'Donnell II. "Because it offers concrete methods to physically quit smoking, along with clinical advice that addresses the emotional need to smoke, the New Quit Smoking section of TeenCentral.net will work to save the minds and bodies of today's children."

The Quit Smoking section of TeenCentral.net provides practical information and activities to help teens identify what may have led to smoking, such as peer pressure, depression or low self-esteem. These issues can then be tackled in TeenCentral.net's main pages.

This new and more complete approach to stopping smoking includes many interactive and enjoyable activities for teens. From a special calculator that helps teens compute how much money they waste buying cigarettes to daily activities and exercises to personal progress journals to facts about smoking and nicotine addiction, the site offers help and reinforcement to break the habit.

The site even allows teens to take a survey about their smoking habits and compare their results with others from across the globe. The survey has revealed that rebellion is the number-one motivator for starting smoking, followed by curiosity and peer pressure. Teens revealed that health is the prime reason for wanting to stop smoking, followed by the high cost of cigarettes and wanting to perform better in physical activities.

One of the most helpful sections of the site is the story-sharing component. Teens can enter stories of their daily struggles and successes and read the similar stories of others. Trained KidsPeace clinicians respond with advice for the writer.

"TeenCentral.net's Quit Smoking initiative, coupled with its general advice on issues teens face every day, ensures we are helping teens face their issues comprehensively," said Ginger Papp and Julius Licata, co-managers of TeenCentral.net.

TeenCentral.net, which is receiving some two million hits a month and has helped teens from 70 countries, every state in America and U.S. military bases overseas, focuses on providing teens with an individualized, safe resource while maintaining their anonymity. Through a revolutionary "profile builder," the site identifies kids' demographics and problem issues and associates them with a nontraceable code name. The site then identifies appropriate resources, information and stories to help kids with their unique issues. Helpful information is provided on topics including parents' divorce, family problems, violence and losing someone close, depression, alcohol and drugs, peer pressure and personal problems.

KidsPeace is a 120-year-old charity dedicated to giving help, hope and healing to children facing crises such as trauma, depression and the stresses of modern life. For information, visit www.kidspeace.org.
CALIFORNIA YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION SCORECARD RELEASED; SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY RANKED POORLY

County Receives "D" for Youth Safety, "D" for Providing Positive Choices for Youth

received a "D" for its efforts to provide positive choices for youth, such as after-school programs and adult-supervised activities. Most of California's 15 largest counties received a "C" or higher in this category.

The Youth Violence Prevention Scorecard graded the 15 largest counties in the state, which comprise 83 percent of California's youth population ages 10 to 17. "Choices for Youth" worked with an advisory group of violence-prevention experts from across the state. The group recognizes and acknowledges the thousands of community-based organizations in the state that contribute meaningfully to providing programs that offer young people job training, mentoring and other constructive uses of their time that also serve to keep them safe. The scorecard is limited by available data sets for all counties and age groups, and is designed to provide a snapshot representative of realities facing youth and their choices in California.

The scorecard looks first at the status of youth safety by assigning each of the state's 58 counties a rank based on victimization, self-inflicted injury and incarceration rates, student/counselor ratios, and the percentage of youth graduating with UC/CSU qualifications. Second, the scorecard reviews how communities are using their state and federal funding resources to provide choices for youth, such as crime prevention, after-school programs, job training and mentor programs.

"This scorecard reflects that counties are allocating funds for prevention but do not have enough resources to deal with scope of the problem," said Laurie Kappe, Choices for Youth director. "It's clear that we need more after-school programs, job training, mentoring and other adult-supervised activities to help prevent violence against youth across the state."

The scorecard evaluates the status of youth safety in San Bernardino County by ranking the county among California's 58 counties using various indicators. San Bernardino scored above average (22nd) for its student counselor ratio of 895 students per counselor. At the same time, the county scored well below average for the remaining four safety indicators, ranking 36th for its incarceration rate of 210 of every 100,000 youth, 37th for its self-inflicted-injury rate of 51 out of 100,000 youth, 48th for the percentage (25 percent) of high-school students graduating with UC/CSU qualifications, and 51st for its high assault rate of 36 out of every 100,000 youth.

To grade counties on efforts to provide choices for youth, their effective use of several funding streams were considered, including: the Juvenile Justice and Crime Prevention Act (Schiff-Cardenas 2000), 21st Century Learning Centers Program, the Workforce Investment Act job program, and three state mentoring grants awarded to each county through the Governor's Mentoring Partnership, the office of the Secretary of Education and the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.

San Bernardino County's efforts to provide positive choices for youth earned a lackluster "D" grade. The county spends just 34 percent of its Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds on prevention. The county's federal, job-training program can serve 16 percent of youth 16 to 19. San Bernardino designates none of its after-school funds to high schools and has secured just one percent of mentoring grants available from the state.

"Choices for Youth: A Public Education to Prevent Violence against Youth," funded by a grant to i.e. communications, LLC from the California Wellness Foundation, is working to inform policy makers, opinion leaders and the general public about the need to increase California's investment in programs to prevent violence against youth. The "Choices for Youth" campaign has conducted two statewide voter polls and numerous youth-to-youth surveys on the subject of violence against youth. In the survey results, voters and youth agree that violence is preventable - if we can provide youth positive choices, such as good schools, job training, enrichment programs and mentoring.

The complete report with accompanying data, and additional information on The California Wellness Foundation can be found at www.preventviolence.org/press/resources.htm or by calling Severn Williams at i.e. communications at 415-616-3930 or 415-336-9623. Additional information on The California Wellness Foundation can be found at www.tcwf.org.

ICH R APPOINTS ALBERT ROMAN AS PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

Continued from Page 1

workshops on issues including education, healthcare, public safety, etc., and providing the public with updated legislation. Additionally, Roman served simultaneously as field director for Joey Acufia for State Assembly.

Other projects have included Inland Empire Campaign Director for NO on Proposition 38, the anti-voucher proposition, assistant campaign manager for Soto for senate in 1998 elections and congressional assistant for the late Congressman George Brown, Jr.

Roman serves on the City of Rialto Human Relations Commission, member of the League of Women Voters, Home of Neighborly Services, Rialto Chamber of Commerce and a delegate to the California State Convention-2001. He previously served as vice president of the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino.

In 1988, Hispanic organizations scheduled activities that conflicted and were counter-productive for support within the San Bernardino and adjacent areas. Recognizing the problem, the late Esther Mata, Robert Martinez and Graciano Gomez founded the Inland Empire Hispanic Roundtable. ICHR identified Hispanic organizations in the area and established a board of directors. The board coordinated member organizations' activities and inter-supportive components for members' activities ICHR, in addition, acted as an advocate for issues affecting the Hispanic community.

"In 2001, our executive board reorganized ICHR with a central office, an information and referral service and a computer system to capture member organizations' schedule of activities and distribution system. We also added health and social programs needed in the community," stated Quinto. Roman and his wife, Andrea, an elementary school teacher, are the parents of Albert, Jr., age 7, and Ashley, 1 year.

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Morris recounted Garza's early years as a migrant farm worker who was orphaned at the age of 10. The award contains a photograph of a young boy in a cotton field, and Morris compared the image to Garza's early life in the Rio Grande Valley in 1936.

Garza, Morris said, spent his early years in the cotton fields, where he toiled daily, working as much as 18 hours a day. His father died when he was a toddler, and he was sent to a sanitarium with the symptoms of tuberculosis after the disease killed his mother. He was befriended by missionaries, who sent him to boarding school where he was taught the English language.

Encouraged by missionaries, Garza eventually attended Texas A&M, the University of New Mexico, and eventually UCLA School of Law, where he was the school's third Mexican-American graduate. Garza has received numerous professional awards, and was nominated in 1981 to the state Supreme Court. The position went to Cruz Reynoso.

Morris called Garza's story "a true Horatio Alger tale." He called the lawyer a hero filled with virtue and bravery "who overcame insurmountable odds" to find success.

The award is engraved with a quote by John Locke, whom Morris described as "one of the most influential thinkers who ever lived." The quote reads, "Fortitude is the guard and support of the other virtues."

Garza said he was overwhelmed by the establishment of the award in his name, and downplayed the difficulties of his youth.

"Anyone who had any touch with 1930s suffered as much as I did," he stated. "The Depression, which is something I pray we will forever have this constant development works can be overlooked until someone recognizes the talent. CHICANO VISIONS (Bulfinch Press; Sept. 14, 2002; $35.00) is a book that does just that. The multi-talented Cheech Marin is nationally recognized for his work as an actor, comedian, director and musician, but what few realize is that he is a long-time champion of the Chicano School of Painting. His penchant for Chicano art collecting began twenty years ago when he was drawn to this unique school of art that blends both American and Mexican cultures, enveloping the bicultural environment through a vibrant and passionate interpretation of family, social mores; religion and politics. For years these formally trained artists have sought a forum. Now they are to receive their due as Marin's personal Chicano art collection, the largest of its kind, embarks on a national interactive-exhibition tour, stopping at museums coast to coast, such as the Smithsonian, the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego and the Delonge Museum in San Francisco. The book will serve as a companion to the tour but so much more as well. It features thirty prominent Mexican-American artists, including Patsy Valdez, Gronk, and Carlos Almaraz.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Cheech Marin is a jack-of-all-trades who has been entertaining audiences for thirty years. Without a doubt he can confidently tout himself as a serious art collector and visionary. In 1999 he was the recipient, of the National Council of La Raza Kraft Food ALMA Community Service Award and the 2000 Imagen Foundation's Creative Achievement Award.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Lily Eskelsen, the secretary-treasurer of the National Education Association (NEA), joined Eddie Escobedo Sr., chairman of the National Hispanic Press Foundation, today to launch the newly created Hispanic Scholarship Directory web site (www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org).

The web site will make more than 1,000 sources of financial aid more easily accessible to Hispanic students around the country and world. The site includes application guidelines, an alumni section, and most importantly, a database of scholarships fully searchable by a variety of categories, including state, college, and field of interest. "A college degree is the ticket to a better life in this country," said NEA's Lily Eskelsen, one of the highest-ranking Hispanic educators in the nation. "We encourage all Latino students, their parents, teachers, and guidance counselors to log onto this web site and make every effort to obtain a college education. Truly, the quality of your future will depend on it."

The web site will extend the usefulness of the Hispanic Press Foundation directory, which is in its fifth edition. This exposure makes scholarship information for Hispanics readily available throughout the United States. In addition, the ease by which the electronic version can be updated should facilitate the listing of more scholarships. And help identify more education financing for Hispanics. Moreover, many of the scholarships listed are available not only to U.S. citizens but to any student of Hispanic descent, regardless of nationality.

The project garnered support and praise from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. "The foundation of every state is the education of its youth. For this reason, I firmly believe that education is the greatest need in our community," said Congressman Ruben Hinojosa, Senior Member of the House Education and Workforce Committee and Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Education Taskforce. "Partnerships like this will go a long way towards helping Hispanic students secure the educational resources they need and deserve. I commend the National Hispanic Press Foundation and the National Education Association for aggressively working to empower America's students with information that can make higher education a reality for every rising student," Hinojosa added.

"Like many Americans, most Hispanics don't know the full range of opportunities there are to secure education scholarships. The NEA's commitment to help us fashion the Hispanic Scholarship web site create greater opportunity for families to learn that a higher education is within their reach," said Escobedo. "Many parents do not have sufficient economic resources to provide a higher education...[and] many college age Latino children look for work opportunities to help their families."

According to Hispanic Link Weekly Report statistics show that the sons and daughters of recent immigrants are suffering significant educational challenges. Almost 30% of Latino students drop out of school at some point. Of those over 25 years of age, 11% of Hispanics have completed a university education, compared with 25% of non-Hispanic whites.

The launch of the Hispanic Scholarship web site coincides with America's Education Week, a special time set aside to recognize the value of public education.

Kirk Whisler, founder of the Latino Print Network, partner in the previous printed editions of the Directory commented, "Over the past five years the printed version of this directory have helped thousands of Hispanics with the goal of going to college. I'm confident that the online version will help many more."

Visit the new web site at www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org. For further information on the National Hispanic Press Foundation or National Association of Hispanic Publications [NAHP], please visit their joint web site at www.nahp.org. For more information on NEA, visit www.nea.org.
Among his applied research projects is the Community Digital Initiative (CDI), a computer lab in Riverside available to young people who otherwise would have limited access to a computer.

The award goes to two people in the nation this year, both from the UC system. The other winner is Patricia Zavella, a professor at UC Santa Cruz in the department of Latin American American and Chicana and Chicano studies.

Richard Chabrán will accept the award in April from the National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies.

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**CSUSB DEC. 7 WINTER COMMENCEMENT TO FEATURE FORMER WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF LEON PANETTA AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Cal State San Bernardino's second-ever winter graduation on Dec. 7 will feature Leon E. Panetta, former Congressmen and White House Chief of Staff during the Clinton administration, as the keynote speaker.

About 600 students are expected to participate in the Commencement, which also will streamed over the Internet, at www.csusb.edu, starting at 10 a.m. PST. The Commencement lasts about two hours.

Panetta is a former Northern California congressman (1977-93), serving as chairman of the House Committee on the Budget from 1989 to 1993. He also chaired several House subcommittees. In 1993 then President Clinton tapped Panetta to become the director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He was appointed chief of staff to President in 1994, a position he held through the end of Clinton's first term in 1997. Panetta was the principal negotiator of the successful 1996 budget compromise.

Panetta and his wife co-direct the Leon and Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy at California State University, Monterey Bay—a campus he serves as Distinguished Scholar in the year 2000.

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**TITO NIEVES**

"Muy Agradecido" is the title of Tito Nieves' latest album. And that's exactly how he feels, "Deeply Grateful", with his record company Warner Music Latina and everyone that contributed to this production, artists, musicians, authors, technicians, etc., the people that have been by his side in each recording, live presentations, tours, on stage, in the studios and out there. To thank everyone that has been along side his career, which has been more than 27 years.

Tito Nieves wanted to do something different and special with this production, including the participation of other top-notch artists and a variety of rhythms, which include five sazassas, two boleros and one cumbia. "Muy Agradecido" has been produced by Sergio George with George Zavella, a professor at UC Santa Cruz in the department of Latin American American and Chicana and Chicano studies.

The University of California, Riverside offers undergraduate and graduate education to nearly 16,000 students and has a projected enrollment of 21,000 students by 2010. It is the fastest growing and most ethnically diverse campus of the preeminent ten-campus University of California system, the largest university system in the world. The picturesque 1,200-acre campus is located at the foot of the Box Springs Mountains near downtown Riverside in Southern California. More information about UC Riverside is available at www.ucr.edu or by calling 909-787-5185. For a listing of faculty experts on a variety of topics, please visit http://mmr.ucr.edu/experts/.
The Casa De San Bernardo's Westside Prevention Project is actively involved with youth programs involving elementary boys and girls. One of the many projects is the bicycle club, in which members build individual bicycles from donated parts. Pictured above are part of the bicycle club members that recently spoke on activities of the WPP before the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino. Second from left is Sandy Bonilla, project director. Photo by IEHN

THE BOY NEXT DOOR

Can a single gossip columnist—bored by her job, not to mention her life in general—find romance in the age of e-mail? That's the coy conundrum posed by best-selling author Meggin Cabot in The Boy Next Door (Avon Books, $13.95)

Cabot, creator of the widely acclaimed The Princess Diaries, uses her new book—her contemporary romantic debut—to pry into the secret cyberlife of Melissa Fuller, who is drawn from her cloistered world of computer exchanges and celebrity trash by the arrival of photographer Max Friedlander.

In Max, "Mel" believes she has found the kind of love she has only written about, but a mysterious message from a Victoria's Secret supermodel may manage to put the kibosh on the love of a lifetime.

The Boy Next Door is written entirely in a series of e-mail exchanges, and follows the ever-changing saga of a single New Yorker, who somehow manages to find love on the other side of the apartment wall. It is available wherever books are sold.

In November, former HUD Secretary and Mayor of San Antonio, Henry Cisneros, gave a preview of his upcoming book on the Latinization of the United States. Cisneros was the keynote speaker at Arte Publico Press’s annual Piñata Party, chaired by Houston’s Geraldina Interiano Wise at the Doubletree Hotel in the Space City.

Currently Cisneros is the President of American City Vista, an organization that builds homes in central neighborhoods of major cities. The publication of Cisneros’ book will formalize his role as a visionary of the American scene. His book will focus on the ascendence of Latinos to prominence in all aspects of American life. In his address, Cisneros emphasized the strength of Latino impact in the cultural arts, such as literature, design and architecture, as well as food. Of course, he also foresees this cultural impact accompanying growing Latino economic and political power.

The forum for Cisneros’ and Arte Publico’s announcement of the upcoming publication was the publishing house’s annual fundraiser, which highlighted Latino arts. Chairperson Wise organized a veritable pageant, in which famous Latino chefs prepared the four courses of the meal, salsa street dancers performed, and The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston displayed representations of its Latin American collection. Also at the gala, Arte Público Press awarded its annual award for bilingual children’s literature to Samuel Caraballo, a Puerto Rican school teacher from Virginia Beach and author of Estrellita se despide de su isla/Estrellita Says Good-bye to Her Island.

Arte Público Press is the nation’s largest and most established publisher of contemporary and recovered literature by U.S. Hispanic authors. Its imprint for children and young adults, Piñata Books, is dedicated to the realistic and authentic portrayal of the themes, languages, characters, and customs of Hispanic culture in the United States. Based at the University of Houston, Arte Publico Press, Piñata Books and the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage project provide the most widely recognized and extensive showcase for Hispanic literary arts and creativity. For more information please visit our website at www.arтеpublicоpress.com.
FORMER JET FIGHTER TURNS IN HIS WINGS TO LAND IN A CLASSROOM

When we see a man or woman proudly wearing their military uniform or fatigue, the reaction is automatic respect. Respect because these courageous citizens have decided to protect the freedom of all Americans with their own lives. Among these courageous citizens have proudly worn their military uniforms: Senior Sergeant for the United States Air Force, Gilbert Evelio Sanchez took his military life. With three generations of teachers in his family, becoming a teacher was his destiny.

With the severe teacher shortage that the state is facing, career changers like Sanchez are in need. In the next decade, California will need to recruit 195,000 individuals to serve as qualified instructors in K-12 public school system.

"Teaching is not a job, it is a lifestyle," exclaims Sanchez. "It carries over into all aspects of your life."

It was while working in the veterans' office at Mt. San Antonio Community College in 1998 that Sanchez, after applied to the credentialing program, a move that would lead him to a career in which he finds daily fulfillment.

"Other than teaching, I couldn't think of a better way to spend the day," remarks Sanchez.

Through a unique military service program called Troops-To-Teachers, Sanchez transitioned from landing high-powered jets on naval carriers to steering his own classroom.

Being a great teacher and a role model for children is not easy. It takes a lot of work and patience, which is key in teaching. Sanchez was well aware of that when applying to the credentialing program.

"My high school counselor was my mentor and friend," remembers Sanchez. "Mrs. Gibson never gave up on me. She always encouraged me and she listened." With the name of his mentor still fresh in his mind, Sanchez knew he wanted to do for others what Mrs. Gibson did for him.

Sanchez is currently in his last year of completing his teaching credential at the University of La Verne. He teaches biology, chemistry and physics at the sophomore and junior level at Pioneer High School in Whittier, California.

Some perceive teaching to be the best job in the world, with three months off, as well as Christmas and New Year's. Teaching is rewarding but some days are also challenging.

"The most challenging aspect of teaching is the lack of resources and over-crowding," exclaims Sanchez. "Sometimes I have 38 to 40 students in a classroom and only 34 desks."

He overcomes these challenges by making sure that his teaching makes up for the lack of resources. Sanchez believes being a dedicated teacher is what gets him through the tough times. For him, the rewards are great and come from different sources, especially the diverse students he teaches.

In honoring Hispanic Heritage, and Latinos in Action Campaign the California Center for Teaching Careers is partnering with Troops-To-Teachers to recognize the dedicated individuals that continue to serve their country by teaching.

Join us for GReat local shopping and Holiday Entertainment at Carousel Mall, Downtown San Bernardino

Saturday, Dec. 7 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. The cool holiday sounds of keyboardist Marshall Crayton Encore Performance, Monday, Dec. 23 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8 4 p.m. Holiday and inspirational vocals from Mr. Arthur Rand, vocalist of the Legendary Ink Spots Saturday, Dec. 14 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. The Cotton Dance Studio Holiday Show Sunday, Dec. 15 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Local Folklorico dance group Raices de Mi Tierra (Roots of My Country) Mexican culture and holiday spirit performed in authentic clothing

Sunday, Dec. 22 3 p.m. Mariachi Estudiantes del Inland Empire youth group featuring local students of the Mariachi musical art Tuesday, Dec. 24 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. The Reverend Melvin Cole inspirational songs of the season and tribute to Reverend Al Green

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"The most challenging aspect of teaching is the lack of resources and over-crowding," exclaims Sanchez. "Sometimes I have 38 to 40 students in a classroom and only 34 desks."

He overcomes these challenges by making sure that his teaching makes up for the lack of resources. Sanchez believes being a dedicated teacher is what gets him through the tough times. For him, the rewards are great and come from different sources, especially the diverse students he teaches.

In honoring Hispanic Heritage, and Latinos in Action Campaign the California Center for Teaching Careers is partnering with Troops-To-Teachers to recognize the dedicated individuals that continue to serve their country by teaching.
This year the annual feast of our Lady of Guadalupe will have an even greater meaning because Pope John Paul II elevated to sainthood Juan Diego on July 31, 2002 at the Basilica of our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Hundreds of thousands who came on pilgrimages from all over the world, surrounded the Basilica to witness this event that had its beginning 471 years ago.

Why do Mexicans, Latin Americans and other Catholics and non-Catholics celebrate this historical event of Our Lady of Guadalupe?

The Franciscans and Augustinian Missionaries were convinced that the first attempts to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ had a very poor response on the part of the Natives of Mexico. In 1536, 5 years after the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe event, the Franciscan Priests founded the College of Santa Clara. Their goal was to enroll the most intelligent and gifted students and provide them with an education that integrated the three languages Latin, Spanish and Nahuatl and two cultures - Spanish and Nahuatl.

The teachers included the learned Nahuatl elders and the Franciscan Fathers. From 1536 to about 1580, el Colegio De Santa Clara produced some of the greatest artists, historians, natural scientists, poets and painters that surpassed some of the European scholars. By 1580 the Colegio was in a crisis due to the fear among the Spanish elite that this school was providing too many opportunities to the Natives.

Don Antonio Valeriano was a product of this prestigious Colegio. Many believe that he and some of his colleagues gathered the many different materials and the written narrative of Our Lady of Guadalupe event. They recorded, edited, and authored the written narrative of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe event, which has been named from the first two words of this account, "EL NICAN" which is translated as "HEREIN IS TOLD IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.

I would like to share some of the more important facts of this apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe event that I believe is a theological reflection of what this event and its message means to us.

First of all, the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe event has a powerful message of hope for a vanquished people that had been defeated and had almost experienced the total destruction of their way of life. From the ashes of that genocidal war the ever Blessed Virgin, Holy Mary, asked Juan Diego, a native, to be her ambassador. The key role Juan Diego plays in this effort to provide an alternative project that would create a new society clearly proved that the Indigenous will be the messengers, the evangelizers, and the proclaimers of a new just social order. Vatican II in one of the documents on the Laity in 1965, reminded all missionaries that every culture has some of the seeds (values) of the gospel imbedded in it. True missionaries should build on what the cultures possess and should respect the cultures and the people's way of life.

Our Lady of Guadalupe spoke to Juan Diego in his native language, Nahuatl. She addressed him as an equal. She invited him to be an agent that participated actively in getting Bishop Zummaraga to construct the shrine to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.

"Listen my son, my most abandoned but worthy one. I am the ever Virgin, holy Mary, Mother of the God of Great Truth "Teotl" the one by whom we live, the Creator of Persons, the owner of what is near and far, The Lord of Heaven and Earth". Our Lady continues to explain to Juan Diego why she wants Bishop Zummaraga to build her shrine on this hollow ground where so many have perished. "I earnestly want and desire most fervently that on this hillside you erect a shrine. In it I will reveal and give the people (the poor) all my love, compassion, my help and protection for I am a merciful mother to you and to all the people that live on this earth, who love me, who speak to me, who look for me and confide in me. There (in this chapel) I will listen to their laments and heal and cure all their miseries, pain and sorrows."

The dauntless fidelity of Juan Diego reminds bishops and priests of the faithful work of the laity and most especially of the religious and laywomen. Whether or when women will someday be deaconesses, priests or bishops is not as important as recognizing that without them and their devoted commitment, the faith communities of all religious Expressions would be in a crisis.

Perhaps the most important message the Guadalupe Event has for all of us is to pray for all our spiritual leaders. Juan Diego's faith and dauntless efforts lead to Bishop Zummaraga's conversion. Our spiritual leaders need to walk more closely with the people and most especially the poor. I dare say that all of us that are spiritual leaders need to renew our ministerial commitment to serve and not to be served.

"QUE VIVA LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE! QUE VIVA CRISTO REV! QUE VIVA EL PUEBLO DE DIOS!"

"LONG LIVE OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE! LONG LIVE CHRIST THE KING! LONG LIVE GOD'S PEOPLE!!"

Father Patricio Guillen is a retired priest, community activist and co-director of The Libreria del Pueblo.
The race to find a cure for Alzheimer’s disease has intensified in recent years. With the aging of the populations in most of the industrialized world, over the next few decades Alzheimer’s threatens to overwhelm health care systems and exact a human cost that is almost unimaginable. To try to prevent such a disaster as well as ease the suffering of the current 12-15 million people worldwide now estimated to have the disease, scientists are exploring every angle in their quest to find a prevention or a cure.

So far, no one has found a “magic bullet” to stop the disease process once it has begun, nor can we prevent it altogether. But in recent years, scientists have found several ways to delay the disease and slow its course. They believe that if one adopts certain recommendations, the onset of the disease could be delayed by up to five years. While this may not be the news we’re all waiting to hear it’s very good news nonetheless. Here’s why.

The risk of developing Alzheimer’s rises sharply the older we get. While approximately 10% of Americans over 65 have the disease, the rate of incidence after 85 is almost 50%. This means there’s a steep upward curve in risk after age 65. So let’s say that, for reasons that are still not well understood, one is destined to develop Alzheimer’s at age 70, but is able to delay its onset until age 74. At that time, one of the four currently available Alzheimer’s drugs can be started, prolonging the early stage of the disease, when the patient is still for the most part functional, for another two years. This means the patient has added six meaningful years to his life, years that would have been overshadowed by the devastating decline caused by Alzheimer’s disease if he had not taken steps to delay it. And because these are years characterized by rising mortality due to other causes, the person may be able to avoid the particular tragedy of Alzheimer’s altogether. Loved ones will not have experienced the grief of caring for him in the advanced stages of Alzheimer’s, and placement in a nursing home may never even be a consideration.

So how can you take steps to avoid or delay Alzheimer’s disease? Alzheimer’s Disease Research, a research foundation headquartered in Clarksburg, MD makes the following recommendations.

Control your blood pressure. Research has shown a higher incidence of Alzheimer’s among those with uncontrolled high blood pressure. Know your blood pressure, and if your systolic pressure is 130 or higher, limit your salt intake and take any blood pressure-lowering medications your doctor prescribes for you.

Maintain a low blood cholesterol level. Evidence is mounting that those who have high cholesterol from middle age onwards have a four-to-five times higher risk of developing Alzheimer’s in their later years. Considering that high cholesterol levels also contribute to the risk of stroke-related dementia, too much fat and cholesterol in the diet is a definite no-no if you want to stay mentally sharp as you age. At the same time, taking a cholesterol-lowering "statin" drug is associated with a lower risk of Alzheimer’s.

If possible, take an anti-inflammatory drug daily. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen and sulindac, or prescription arthritis drugs such indomethacin have been shown to delay the onset of Alzheimer’s. However, these drugs can cause serious gastrointestinal problems and are not right for everyone. You should consult your doctor about safe alternatives before you embark on a daily regimen.

Get your antioxidant vitamins. There is now a significant body of research suggesting that the antioxidant vitamins, especially vitamins E and C, can prevent or delay the development of Alzheimer’s, and slow its course once it develops. Most experts agree that the best source of vitamins is in the foods we eat, but taking supplements as we age is also a good idea. Some scientists recommend 400 IU’s (international units) of vitamin E and 500 mgs (milligrams) of vitamin C a day for prevention. If you’re having memory problems, take the same dosage twice a day, and if Alzheimer’s has already been diagnosed, up your dosage to three times a day. If you have memory problems, take a cholinesterase inhibitor. This is a class of prescription drugs that includes all four of the drugs approved by FDA for the treatment of Alzheimer’s. These drugs increase the brain’s supply of a key neurotransmitter, called cholinesterase, and are known to slow the course of Alzheimer’s disease. The commercial names for these drugs (in order of how long they’ve been around) are Aricept, Exelon and Reminyl. The earlier you begin taking these drugs after you develop memory problems, the more effective they can be.

Exercise your mind and body. For reasons that are still not well delineated, regular physical exercise seems to improve cognitive ability throughout life and is also associated with a lower risk of Alzheimer’s. And the old adage, "use it or lose it" applies to both the body and the brain. Any type of intellectual stimulation engaged in regularly helps—whether it involves reading, learning new skills, playing challenging games or seeking out stimulating social activities. In other words, we need to rethink our concept of retirement. Rather than making our later years a time to drop out of life, our brains and bodies are telling us to live fully, stay engaged, and to constantly seek out the new.

For more information about Alzheimer’s disease, contact Alzheimer’s Disease Research, a program of the American Health Assistance Foundation, by writing to them at 22512 Gateway Center Drive, Clarksburg, MD 20871. You can also call their toll-free number, 1-800-437-2423 or visit their website at www.ahaf.org.

California Department of Consumers Affairs Bureau of Automotive Repair

Dealing With an Auto Repair Shop: Consumers’ Rights

Whether your car is new or used, at some point you probably will take it to an auto repair facility for service. It’s important to know your rights and be sure your car is fixed properly and at the price appearing on the estimate. For example California law requires repair shops to give you a written estimate and get your approval before performing repairs, so you’re not surprised by the final bill.

To help you “Drive Smart,” the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR), California consumers’ advocate for more than 30 years, offers the following guidelines for working with an auto repair shop.

• Explain the problem clearly. You know your car better than anyone, so try to pinpoint your car’s “symptoms” and, if necessary, make a detailed list.

• Ask questions. If you don’t understand the answers, ask for an explanation.

• Ask if there is a charge for the estimate. Feel free to get a second opinion from another shop.

• Give a phone number. Leave your phone number, so you can be reached while your car is in the shop.

• Review your estimates and work orders. Before any work is performed, an auto repair shop must provide a written estimate for the parts and labor. When you sign the work order, you are authorizing a shop to provide repairs up to the specified dollar amount. Repair shops cannot change the repair method of exceed the original estimate without your authorization. Do not sign a blank work order.

• Verbal authorizations. If authorization is given by phone to make repairs, the repair dealer must note the time and date as well as the name and phone number of the person authorizing the estimate. The repair dealer must also make a note of the phone call on the invoice or obtain your signature when repairs are complete.

• Invoices. All repair invoices must include the shop’s name, address and BAR license number. The shop must also provide an itemized list of labor and parts, and tell you if any reconditioned or rebuilt parts were used.

• Return of replacement parts. A repair shop must return replaced parts to you, if you asked for them when the work order was taken. If the parts are a warranty or exchange arrangement, the shop must show the parts to you before returning them to the supplier.

• Guarantees. A repair shop is not required to provide a guarantee, if the shop does provide one, it must be fully disclosed in writing. Ask if the work or parts are guaranteed.

• Consumer complaints. If you are dissatisfied with repair work, talk directly to the service manager. If the situation cannot be resolved, file a complaint with BAR.

• To file a complaint. Keep all receipts and contact BAR at (800) 952-5210 or file a complaint online at BAR’s Web site at www.autorepair.ca.gov.

Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, December 4, 2002

Delivering Alzheimer’s Can Be Almost as Important as Prevention

Final Tribute
Funeral and Cremation Services
824 E. Highland Ave. San Bernardino
Tel. (909) 234-4476 Fgr. (909) 410-3775

$1,500 Complete
Traditional Funeral Services
Includes Your Choice of Casket and Rosary

Tel. (909) 234-4476
LATINO POLITICAL CLOUT STRENGTHENS AS THE
CAUCUS CONTINUES TO GROW AND GAIN KEY
POSITIONS IN THE LEGISLATURE

SACRAMENTO – A new class of
Latino Caucus Members were sworn
in today at the State capitol increas­
ing the Caucus’ numbers and influ­
ence in the State Legislature. The new
crop of Legislators bring a wide ar­
ray of perspectives and experience to
Sacramento.

“This is an exciting day for us as
a Caucus,” said Majority Floor
Leader Marco Antonio Firebaugh,
Chair of the Latino Caucus. “Our
Caucus is ready to work on the com­
plex issues that affect California’s
working families. Our immediate pri­
ority is to address our looming bud­
get shortfall and ensure that the bud­
get is not balanced on the backs of
our most vulnerable communities, our
children and seniors.”

Latino Caucus Members hold key
positions in both houses of the Leg­
islature:

In the Assembly, in addition to
holding the Majority Floor Leader po­
sition, Latino Caucus Members chair
the Budget, Business and Professions,
Health, Insurance, Local Govern-
ment, Public Employees, Retirement
and Social Security, Revenue and Taxation, and Utilities and Com­
merce Committees.

In the Senate, Latino Caucus
Members hold the Democratic Cau­
cus Chair position, and chair the
Business and Professions, Health, Ju­
diciary, Labor, Public Employees, Re­
tirement and Social Security Commit­
tees.

“We have our work cut out for us,”
said Firebaugh. “Our Caucus will
meet in January to formulate our an­
nual policy agenda and determine the
direction of our Caucus for this up­
coming Legislative year. I welcome
the new Members of our Caucus and
look forward to working with them
to ensure our continued success.”

The new Latino Caucus Members
include:
Gilbert Cedillo
Senator, 22™ District
Denise Moreno Ducheny
Senator, 40™ District

Dean Florez
Senator, 16™ District
Rudy Bermudez
Assembly Member, 56™ District
Ron Calderon
Assembly Member, 58™ District
Cindy Montañez
Assembly Member 39™ District
Fabian Núñez
Assembly Member, 46™ District
Nicole Parra
Assembly Member, 30™ District

Since its inception in 1973 with
five Assembly Members, the Caucus
has experienced tremendous growth.
During the 2002 election cycle the
Caucus grew from 22 to 24 Members.
The Members of the Caucus represent
the diverse geographical regions
throughout the State.

THE ROAD TO VICTORY IS LONG AND HARD.
DESIGNATE A DRIVER.

WE ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
Notice calling for bids City of Perris for D Street Promenade Improvement Project

The City of Perris requests sealed bids from contractors for sidewalk, street, parking lot and other associated public improvements along one public street, and within one public right-of-way: 1) D Street between the I-215 exit and 3rd Street, and 2) publicly owned land between 1st and 2nd Streets adjacent to and immediately west of buildings along D Street in Perris, CA.

Plans and specifications are available at the City of Perris City Clerk’s Office, located at 101 N. "D" Street, Perris, CA 92570, (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) Monday through Thursday, for a nonrefundable fee of $60 dollars (or $70 if mailed).

All bids and accompanying materials shall be submitted in duplicate.

For more information visit the website or call (909) 387-8308.

December 10th Property Tax Deadline Reminder

San Bernardino County Treasurer-Tax Collector

Dick Larsen wants to remind you of the December 10th Deadline for 1st 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
• In person at our office 172 West Third St., San Bernardino
• Or by mail with your tax bill stub
For more information, visit the website or call (909) 387-8308.

Spring Semester Begins January 13

Telephone Registration:
Dec. 2-24 & Jan. 2-7
On Campus Registration:
Jan. 6-7

Enroll Now at the CHC Admissions Office at:
Crafton Hills College
11711 Sand Canyon Road
Yuccaipa, CA 92399