December 18th 2002

Hispanic News

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PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

By Joan D. Chittister, OSB

Great God, who has told us
"Vengeance is mine,"
save us from ourselves,
save us from the vengeance in our hearts
and the acid in our souls.
Save us from our desire to hurt as we have been hurt,
to punish as we have been punished,
to terrorize as we have been terrorized
Give us the strength it takes
to listen rather than to judge,
to trust rather than to fear,
to try again and again
to make peace even when peace eludes us.
We ask, O God, for the grace
to be our best selves.
We ask for the vision
to be builders of the human community
rather than its destroyers.
We ask for the humility as a people
to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.
We ask for the love it takes
to bequeath to the children of the world to come
more than the failures of our own making.
We ask for the heart it takes
to care for all the peoples
of Afghanistan and Iraq, of Palestine and Israel
as well as for ourselves.
Give us the depth of soul, O God,
to constrain our might,
to resist the temptations of power,
to refuse to attack the attackable,
to understand
that vengeance begets violence,
and to bring peace — not war — wherever we go.
For You, O God, have been merciful to us.
For You, O God, have been patient with us.
For You, O God, have been gracious to us.
And so may we be merciful
and patient
and gracious
and trusting
With these others whom you also love.

This we ask through Jesus,
the one without vengeance in his heart.
This we ask forever and ever. Amen.

VICTORVILLE RESIDENT FELIX DIAZ
AUTHORS "FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOJAVE"

Victorville resident Felix Diaz has
authored an autobiography of his life in
the upper desert, "Footprints On The
Mojave" and recently published a 'must
read' publication for Hispanic youth.

Felix Diaz, a lifelong resident of
Victorville, has dedicated several de­
cades to document the history of his
family's background and lifelong
experiences growing up in the upper
desert. His recently published book.

"Footprints On the Mojave" de­
scribes the discrimination, segrega­
tion and barriers which he and other
citizens of Mexican descent encoun­
tered, the challenges for career plan-
Continue on Page 3

MERRI-ACHI CHRISTMAS CONCERT
HUGE SUCCESS

The 5th Annual Merri-Achi Christmas
Concert presented by the Sinfonia
Mexicana with the Mariachi Sol de
Mexico de Jose Hernandez and local
artist Desiree Flores, above, was one of
the most outstanding performances
todate. A full audience at the Califor-
nia Theater, San Bernardino were en­
tertained for three hours with Christ­
mas songs, a color guard from
Edwards Air Force Base, patriotic
music and true mariachi music.
Desiree Flores sang two songs and an
encore, receiving an outstanding re­
ception from the audience. Flores has
performed for over 10 years, includ­
ing opening act for Jose Feliciano,
Jenny Jones Christmas Show, sang for
Governor Gray Davis and other open­
ing acts. An outstanding student at
Our Lady of Assumption, she is cur­
tently the student council president,
ardent athlete and has a career goal
of being a physician. She studies
voice under the direction of
Gwendolyn Roberts. The Sinfonia
Mexicana presented Flores with a $500
scholarship.

Photo by JEHN
See more pictures on page 6
LINDA DUTIL DESCRIBES E.R. EXPERIENCE OF YOUTH ON DRUGS

Linda Dutil, R.N. from Maine, a nationally recognized motivational speaker on drugs and alcohol among youth, was the keynote speaker at the Gangs and Drug Task Force at the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department. Photo courtesy of the Sheriff's Department.

Linda Dutil, R.N. has traveled the country for two years speaking on her experiences as an emergency room nurse in Maine, treating pre-teens, teens and older persons on drug overdoses and under age drinking. Her plain talk, "A Taste of Reality" is an honest and straightforward discussion before audiences, including middle and high school students, law enforcement groups, parents and the public at large throughout the United States.

The motivational speaker was the keynote speaker at the Gangs and Drug Task Force meeting at the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department.

Speaking to over 150 law enforcement officials, educators, probation officers and public, her presentation was sponsored by Anheuser-Busch of Riverside.

"My experience as an emergency room nurse convinced me that young people have made bad choices, choices that could have been avoided," she said.

Dressed in hospital scrubs, she spoke of first hand experiences seeing youth entering the emergency room near death and family anxiously waiting for news, hopefully good, regarding their loved ones.

The presentation includes slides of a stomach-pumping procedure and hands-on look at the equipment used during emergency room treatments and demonstrated the use of a tube to pump out the contents of the stomach with one of the "volunteers" in the audience.

Dutil speaks of the peer pressure that students are confronting on a daily basis. "Young people have to learn that the wrong kind of peer pressure has to be avoided by responding with specific answers. It's a learning situation and it takes training," she said.

She gives real life experiences of young people who were unable to recover from drug overdoses and hazards created for families that has lasted a lifetime.

One example was of a 17-year-old girl who while in the emergency room was screaming about spiders. She had taken PCP and was hallucinating. In this state before being rushed to the E. R., she had used a disposable shaving razor to cut off the "spiders" from her body after severely gouging her face and body using her fingernails.

Dutil volunteers as a speaker nationwide and although encouraged by her employers, she is not paid. "I feel strongly that my message of the consequences of drug poisoning, and alcohol indulgences must reach as many of our young people and, hopefully, will make an impact. We are losing our youth in large numbers and all of us have to take preventive action to save them. I have to be candid in my discussions that will hit hard where it counts."

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Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, December 18, 2002

YWCA-SAN BERNARDINO HONORS COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS JERRY AND ANN ATKINSON AT HOLIDAY BRUNCH

Jerry and Ann Atkinson, center, were honored for their achievements and contributions to the betterment of the community at the San Bernardino YWCA Holiday Brunch. At left, Janet Karabatsos, president of the YWCA Board of Directors and right, Greg Cozzo, master of ceremonies. Photo by IEHN.

The San Bernardino Hilton's convention hall was filled with supporters of the YWCA at its Annual Holiday Brunch, with the theme "Home for the Holidays" and to honor Jerry and Ann Atkinson, Center Chevrolet co-owners and well-known community activists.

Master of ceremonies Greg Cozzo (grandson of San Bernardino's outstanding master of ceremonies for many decades) introduced Janet Karabatsos, president, YWCA Board of Directors, who introduced the honorees and reviewed their achievements and community activities. The following is an excerpt.

Celebrating their 39th wedding anniversary in February, 2003, Jerry and Ann Atkinson have accomplished many feats during a lifetime of business ventures and community activities.

Jerry started working for General Motors after his marriage and was required to move continually during the early part of his career. Ann, a teacher, taught at the various schools where the couple resided, including the San Bernardino School District.

Thereafter, Ann went into the real estate business. She was looking for an opportunity to purchase Center Chevrolet car dealership, which will be celebrating its 50th anniversary next year. They also recently purchased Mazda of San Bernardino.

Their interests in community affairs is legendary. Jerry Atkinson has served on the California Motor Car Dealers Association Board of Directors; president of the Southern California Chevrolet Dealers Association, Inland Empire Chevrolet Dealers Association; chair for the San Bernardino Convention and Visitors Bureau and Community Hospital of San Bernardino Foundation and many local agencies board of directors. Jerry has received numerous awards from General Motors in both sales and leadership.

Ann Atkinson was appointed to the California Water Quality Control Board; past president of the San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce and National Orange Show and member of the Yucaipa and Highland Chambers of Commerce and served on numerous board of directors. Ann has received the California Legislature Woman of the Year Award; Business Press Woman of Distinction; Soroptimist International Woman of Distinction Award, League of Women Voter's Citizen of Achievement Award and Distinguished Service Award from the Loma Linda Public School of Health.

Jerry and Ann are graduates of Fresno State University and the parents of two children, David and Cindy.

"The YWCA recognizes and salutes Jerry and Ann Atkinson for their achievements and salutes them for their contributions to the betterment of our community," stated Karabatsos.
Continued from Page 1

ning and earning a livable wage comparable to others on the “other side of the tracks”. Diaz describes the family values and traditions, Catholic faith and supportive network existing in the Mexican community. This publication is required reading and valuable resource for our Hispanic youth to become knowledgeable of the early civil rights struggles and comparable progress that has been accomplished (although the struggle is far from over).

A lifelong resident of the Victor Valley, Felix G. Diaz was elected to the Victorville City Council in November 1992 and served four years. Born in Hesperia, California, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary education from California State University, Los Angeles, in 1964 and a Master Degree in Education/Counseling from Chapman College in 1971. Diaz was the Counselor and Director of E.O.P.S. at Victor Valley College in Victorville, California, for 23 years before his retirement in 1993. He also coached Victor Valley College Basketball for ten years from 1970-76 and 1980-84 and track from 1971-73.

Diaz served as Victor Valley College’s Ethnic Minority Program Coordinator from 1971 until 1976. In addition to his experience at the college, he also taught at Victor Valley Junior High School; Adelanto Elementary School and George Air Force Base Elementary School. He was the founder/director of Alternatives, a gang/drug intervention program.

Diaz was previously involved in the Victor Valley School District Board of Directors; Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Institute for Social Justice; volunteered as assistant coach for eight years at Victor Valley High School and Commandant of Cadets at Victor Valley Junior High School (and was previously a young cadet in 1949-53). He is actively involved in the Los Dorados Del Valle (founder), Victor Valley Museum; Victorville Youth Accountability Board, San Bernardino County Museum; Victor Valley Public Development Corporation for the City of Victorville; responsible for the development of Victorville Old Town Veterans Memorial; Selective Service System Board; San Bernardino County Fair Board of Directors and founder of the American G.I. Forum and current president.

Among many other awards, Diaz was recently awarded the Hispanic Advocate of the Year by the Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine.
UC RIVERSIDE AWARDS NEW SCHOLARSHIPS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS

Scholarships support academically talented students from low-income families.

RIVERSIDE — With funding from the National Science Foundation of $400,000, UC Riverside's Bourns College of Engineering and the Department of Mathematics in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences have established a "CSEMS Scholars Program" for academically talented, low income undergraduate students in the fields of computer science, engineering, and mathematics (CSEMS). Twenty $2,500 freshmen scholarships and twenty $2,500 sophomore/tranfer student scholarships will be awarded annually for each of four years.

The intent of the program is to encourage such students to persist in the CSEMS disciplines by providing them with a comprehensive plan of financial, academic, and professional support throughout their undergraduate years in order to improve their retention and graduation rates.

The University of California, Riverside draws the major portion of its students from the Inland Empire (Riverside and San Bernardino counties) and the inner-city areas of Los Angeles, i.e., regions in which family incomes are among the lowest in the nation. More than half of UC Riverside students receive need-based financial aid, and, in a recent survey done by the UC Office of the President, 54.7% of UC Riverside students who responded said they worked an average of 19.4 hours per week during the academic year to support themselves in college.

"Much of the attrition in the CSEMS majors occurs in the first two years," said Keith Oddson, associate professor of mathematics at UC Riverside, former associate dean for undergraduate students for the College of Engineering, and director of the CSEMS Scholars Program. "We see family financial pressure and the need for students to work part-time as primary contributing factors. Our goal with these scholarships is to provide every student participating in the program the necessary financial assistance to permit full-time enrollment and degree achievement within the normative time of the major. We wish to 'level the playing field,' economically, for these students." In order to maintain eligibility for the program, Scholars must remain full-time students making adequate progress in a declared major of computer science, engineering, or mathematics. They are required to limit their outside employment to no more than 15 hours per week. The financial support of the scholarships is intended to mitigate the need for the Scholars to engage in such employment to the detriment of their studies. Scholars are also expected to participate in various educational and professional enhancement opportunities such as academic excellence workshops, career seminars and field trips, faculty mentoring sessions, student chapters of professional organizations and summer internships or faculty and industrial research projects.

"This is an excellent opportunity for many of our students who qualify for the CSEMS scholarships," said Yat-Sun Poon, professor of mathematics and the associate dean of the UC Riverside's College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. "It also leads these students to many other opportunities such as summer internships or undergraduate research opportunities as they advance in their academic careers."

For the current academic year, 40 CSEMS Scholars were selected based on the recommendations of a program Oversight Committee that is comprised of UC Riverside's faculty members as well as staff members from the university's Financial Aid Office and offices of other support services.

Rima Fata, a transfer student majoring in computer engineering was awarded a CSEMS scholarship this year. "I came from Lebanon, where there aren't as many scholarship opportunities," she said. "I intend to use the scholarship money toward helping pay my tuition at UCR." Jonathan Salehpour, also a Scholar this year, said the scholarship money would provide him much needed relief.

"I won't have to work weekends anymore." The sophomore said Mario Olmedo, a freshman majoring in electrical engineering was delighted that he had won the CSEMS scholarship. "I've had a hard time finding resources to be in school," he said. "This is the first time I've won a scholarship. I feel appreciated and I feel empowered to do more." A contact for information on the CSEMS Scholars Program is Keith Oddson, at the email address ikko@engr.ucr.edu. More information, including program eligibility requirements and an application form for next year's program, will also be available at the College website www.engr.ucr.edu/c osp.

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 premier ten-campus University of California system, the largest public research university system in the world. 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://mnr.ucr.edu/experts/.
STATE TO CRACKDOWN ON IMPAIRED DRIVING DURING HOLIDAYS

December is Drunk & Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month

The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and California Highway Patrol (CHP) aren’t wasting any time getting ready for the holidays—they’re warning motorists early on to make plans for the holidays—they’re warning aren’t wasting any time getting ready for designated drivers and seat belts.

“Removing impaired drivers from our state's highways has always been important in California, particularly during the holidays,” said CHP Commissioner D. O. “Spice” Helmick. “If you think you can get away with drinking and driving, consider yourself forewarned. The Highway Patrol, along with many other law enforcement agencies, will be very busy looking for you.”

December is California's annual Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month, with several law enforcement agencies statewide planning sobriety checkpoints and other efforts to deter impaired driving. "The Office of Traffic Safety has made a concentrated effort to find DUI enforcement programs where the need is greatest," said Teresa Becher, OTS Interim Director. “During 2002, more than $16 million has specifically been set aside to support impaired driving efforts, many of which fall during the December holidays. We want to make sure the California Highway Patrol and other law enforcement agencies have the support they need to effectively get impaired drivers of the roads.”

The consequences of impaired driving last a lot longer than one more drink, often costing thousands of dollars in vehicle towing and storage, increases in insurance, DUI classes, community service, DMV fees and other fines. “A cab ride home is one of the best investments you can make for yourself and your family,” said Helmick. “It may just be the best $20 you ever spend.”

During this year’s 3D Month campaign, the OTIS and CHP, along with the California Restaurant Association, encourage Californians to not only celebrate responsibly by using designated drivers, but by also making sure they wear seat belts every time they get in the car.

Alcohol-related fatalities have risen for three consecutive years after more than a decade of decline. In 2001, 1,308 people were killed and 31,806 were injured in alcohol-related crashes-up from 1,233 deaths and 30,971 injuries the year before. Additionally, more than 176,000 arrests were made last year for impaired driving.

The OTS and CHP provide the following tips to help prevent impaired driving in your community:

• Always have a designated driver on hand whenever alcohol is served.
• Never serve alcohol to minors.
• Talk to young people about the dangers of impaired driving.
• Support your local law enforcement's efforts to fight impaired driving.
• Provide non-alcoholic beverages at holiday celebrations.

For more information regarding California’s 3D Month campaign, please visit www.ots.ca.gov.

BACA RE-ELECTED TO REGIONAL WHIP POST

Asserts “Democrats are Back” at Economic Summit

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Representative Joe Baca (D-Rialto) was re-elected by his peers in the House of Representatives Democratic Caucus to serve as the Democratic Floor Whip for Region I. The vote took place at a meeting in Washington, D.C., of House Democrats that was convened by the newly elected Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) to discuss a comprehensive Democratic proposal to rescue the faltering national economy from what they consider a faulty Republican economic agenda.

Baca, who served in the same capacity during the 107th Congress, will be joined as Regional Whip by Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-NV), whom he worked closely with during the recent fight against the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository plan.

In a personal statement, Baca said, “I appreciate that my colleagues have faith in my ability to rally the troops here in Washington. Shelley and I will work hard to represent the interests of our constituents in the American Southwest and California and to rally Democrats around our proposals to bring pride, prosperity, and justice to the American People.”

(Continued on Page 6)
MERRI-ACHI CHRISTMAS CONCERT HUGE SUCCESS

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BACA RE-ELECTED TO REGIONAL WHIP POST
Asserts "Democrats are Back" at Economic Summit

Continued from Page 5

"One over arching theme came out of this week's Democratic Summit - we're back! While Bush and his so-called economic gurus scramble to find real economic leadership in this nation, Democrats are already putting forth proposals for meaning ful economic growth and stability for all working families. And, we will be fighting even harder than ever to bring aid to the poor, underserved and underrepresented people in our neighborhoods.

In a separate action, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR), an influential and oldest coalition of organizations on human and civil rights, voted to give Congressman Baca a perfect score of 100, as it released its congressional scorecard.

LCCR rates members of Congress on education, budget, tax cuts, racial profiling, immigration, welfare, labor rights, etc.

Major legislative action in which Baca supported was H.R. 5003 amendment, of the Homeland Security Act, which would have eliminated language that denied workers union and civil rights protection and H.R. 1, the motion of the No Child Left Behind Act, Baca voted no on H.R. 3129, which was defeated, that would have exempted Custom Services from liability.

"My record on human and civil rights reflects my dedication to bringing fairness, justice and equal opportunities to the people, while others in Congress talk about equality out of one side of their mouths and cling to past racial and social divides out of the others.

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 2-15 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. Plans and specifications are on file with the City of Perris Department of Planning and Community Development.

This is a federal assisted project and the Davis-Bacon Fair Labor Standards Act will be enforced. The applicable wage determination said project is the one published 10-days prior to bid award. Whenever there is State funding involved, the highest of the two (Federal and State) wage determination prevails.

Pursuant to the Labor code, the City has also obtained from the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, the determinations of general prevailing rates of per diem wages believed to be applicable to the work, including employer payments for health and welfare, pension, vacation and similar purposes, as set forth on schedule which is on file at the office of the city Clerk and which will be made available to any interested person upon request.

A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2, 2002 AT 2:00 PM to enable prospective contractors to clarify additional details considered pertinent for their evaluation prior to the bid submittal date, and to review City, and Federal bidding requirements. The meeting will be conducted at the Department of Planning and Community Development.

Bid opening date and time shall be simultaneous with the bid opening. BID OPENING SHALL BE DECEMBER 11, 2002 at 2:00 PM AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE CITY OF PERRIS.

The City of Perris reserves the right to object to any and all bids and to waive any informalities or technical defects as the best interest of the City of Perris may require.

The City of Perris is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, December 18, 2002

REDLANDS CHRISTMAS PARADE WATCHED BY THOUSANDS

TEN STAR ALL STAR BASKETBALL CAMP

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10 - 19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 States and 8 Foreign Countries attended the 2002 Camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the all American Team. Camp Locations Include: Thousand Oaks, CA, Balson Park, FL, Atlanta GA, Dubuque, IA, Champagne, IL, Macomb, IL, Greencastle, IN, Atchison, KS, Oceanside, CA, Anahiem, MI, Saint Paul, MN, Hickory, NC, Hamilton, NY, Bluffton, OH, Lock Haven, PA, Lebanon, TN, Commerce, TX, Blacksburg, VA, Olympic, WA. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 ANYTIME.

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 121-5 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.

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10 - 19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 States and 8 Foreign Countries attended the 2002 Camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the all American Team. Camp Locations Include: Thousand Oaks, CA, Balson Park, FL, Atlanta GA, Dubuque, IA, Champagne, IL, Macomb, IL, Greencastle, IN, Atchison, KS, Oceanside, CA, Anahiem, MI, Saint Paul, MN, Hickory, NC, Hamilton, NY, Bluffton, OH, Lock Haven, PA, Lebanon, TN, Commerce, TX, Blacksburg, VA, Olympic, WA. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 ANYTIME.

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Have a safe and joyous holiday season

Joe Baca
Congressman, 42nd District and staff
FONTANA BOXING PROGRAM INSPIRES YOUNGSTERS TO FIND RIGHT PATH
By Marvin Portillo

Early in the 1970s, Larry Ramirez and Ruby Sierra Ramirez saw hope in a suffering boxing program located in the heart of a gang and crime-riddled neighborhood in south Fontana.

Larry at the time worked on electrical upgrades at the boxing facility, where the owners were experiencing financial hardship and scraped by to pay the monthly rent. As Larry got closer to completing his work at the facility, he noticed that his son, Frank, had joined the regular training sessions. It was then that Larry and Ruby decided that the facility and boxing could be a sustenance for youngsters seeking to stay away from the neighborhood’s troubled streets.

Larry and Ruby, who have been married for 43 years, adopted the boxing program that is recognized today as the Fontana Youth Boxing Club, 7893 Sierra Ave. Their dedication and hard work has made a positive impact in the lives of at-risk youth from Fontana and surrounding communities.

The Ramirez family have successfully transformed hundreds of children into boxing hopefuls, some of whom have had prosperous amateur boxing careers and others who have reached the professional ranks.

Youngsters who’ve joined the boxing program have experienced success in other areas of life, Larry said. Art Hernandez of Fontana owns a trucking company. David Gutierrez has a law firm in San Diego. Mark Carreon played professional baseball with the New York Mets and San Francisco Giants. And the list keeps going.

“Larry is a mentor. He credits the boxing program with his good standing in society. He gave a young man a hand up, and that’s something with myself,” Larry said.

In late November 2002, Tovar won the 139-lb. weight class at an amateur boxing championship tournament in Thermo, Calif., in Coachella Valley. He won two bouts by decision.

Tovar is a disciplined boxer who is “here every day,” Larry said, adding that more children need positive activities and inspiring role models to keep them from falling into gangs and crime.

“All these kids are from different neighborhoods,” Larry said. “We have San Bernardino, Rialto, [Rancho] Cucamonga, south Fontana, north Fontana, east, west. They’re all one big happy family. There’s no animosity. If we had this in a big place, there wouldn’t be any gang-bangers, because they would all know each other, no matter what neighborhood they came from.”

Participants of the Fontana Youth Boxing Club pay $20.00 per month to train at the facility, including equipment and instruction. Discounted family packages are available. For more information, call (909) 823-6338.
LATINO BOOK FAIR ATTRACTS I.E. AUDIENCE

Edward James Olmos speaks to the large crowd at the Latino Book and Family Festival in Ontario
Photo

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN ASSEMBLYMEMBER JOHN LONGVILLE'S STATE ASSEMBLY INTERN PROGRAM
Volunteer student positions open in district office

Assemblymember John Longville (D-San Bernardino) announced today that he has volunteer student intern positions available in his district office. Internships are available throughout the school year and during the summer.

The students will intern on a volunteer basis. Students in undergraduate and graduate college programs are encouraged to apply. Interns aid professional staffers in performing a wide variety of clerical and support tasks such as research, drafting constituent correspondence, opening mail and answering phones. Interns should possess some computer and writing skills.

Interested applicants should contact Anita Gutierrez, in the district office at 201 North E. Street, Suite 205, San Bernardin0, CA 92401. The phone number is (909) 388-1413.

Assemblymember Longville was elected to the California State Assembly in 1998 to represent the 62" Assembly District. He is currently serving his third term in the California State legislature. During Assembly member Longville's tenure he has chaired several important Committees including Local Government, Transportation and Judiciary. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Elections, Redistricting and Constitutional Amendments Committee, which was responsible for drawing new district boundaries after the 2000

Our computer centers are growing!

"With Riverside Public Utilities support, we are able to expand our computer services throughout Riverside a little more each year."

Judith Auth,
City of Riverside Library Director

Through support from the City of Riverside's Public Utilities Department, our Public Library's computer centers grow a little more each year. In 2001, the Utility provided the Library's Eastside Cybrary Connection Program with eight new computer systems that help teach Riverside youths basic computer skills. Additionally, over the next three years, we will provide $30,000 in funding to help purchase 15 additional public use computer systems. It's all a part of our commitment to help the community we serve. For more information about the Utility's community sponsorship program, stop by the library and log on to riversidepublicutilities.com.

Real people. Real programs. Real rebates.
BUSINESS PLANS, FINANCE, LEGAL AND MARKETING WORKSHOPS

Four workshops designed for people who plan to start a business or have recently established a business will be held Thursday, January 9, 2003, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Thursday, February 6, 2003, at the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, 3985 University Avenue, Riverside, California.

Sponsored by The Inland Empire Chapter of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) Association, these programs will discuss the business plan as an integral part of a business loan application. Most banks will not even discuss a loan until a business plan is presented. Learn about business plans, good record keeping practices and SBA-guaranteed loan opportunities.

A practicing lawyer will take you through the forms of business organization and discuss the pitfalls of each. Other topics of discussion will include contracts and leases and what to watch out for when signing your name. The marketing segment will include the whole marketing plan, including advertising, customer relations, pricing, location, and selling.

The fee, which includes materials is $20.00 per person. For additional information on this event or free business counseling from SCORE, contact SCORE AT (909) 652-4390.

BURLINGAME – Huge cuts in education funding would destroy the academic progress of California students and cause an “education recession” that could hurt our public schools and our state for years to come, warns Wayne Johnson, president of the 330,000-member California Teachers Association.

“Recent investments in public education have been paying off,” Johnson said. “Student achievement has increased and test scores are up. Any reductions must be made away from the classroom or we will destroy that momentum. We can’t afford to force our schools into an education recession.”

Johnson said state legislators convening in a special session Monday to deal with the budget deficit of at least $21 billion over the next 18 months should remember that:

- More than $3.1 billion was cut from our public schools to help the state balance the budget between last year and this year. Any additional immediate cuts must be made away from the classroom.

- California needs a long-term plan to address the immediate and future needs of our students and schools. Resolving the Budget crisis by increasing class sizes or laying off teachers is reckless.

“This is a long-term problem that needs a long-term solution,” said Johnson. "Any additional budget cuts will make it harder to attract qualified teachers at a time when we already face a teacher shortage and overcrowded classrooms.”

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