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JAMES RAMOS FILES CANDIDACY FOR S. B. SCHOOL BOARD

James Ramos, above, is a candidate for the San Bernardino School District Board of Trustees. Photo by IEHN

James Ramos, a community leader in Native American cultural activities, has filed his candidacy for the San Ber-

nardino School District's Board of Trustees in the forthcoming November elections.

"Continuing to build on our local educational system in education is a key goal for seeking a seat on the board of education. We are faced with tremendous challenges in education today and I want to be a part of the team to seek ways in the education of our children," he said.

Ramos was educated in the San Bernardino School District, attending Belvedere Elementary School, Serrano Middle School, and San Gorgonio High School. At Belvedere, I'll always remember Ms. Waller in sixth grade and Ms. Danny Ward, our principal. They Continue on Page 5

SINFONIA MEXICANA PRESENTS "OPERA y MARIACHI" AT CALIFORNIA THEATRE IN SAN BERNARDINO

The "Opera y Mariachi" Symphonic Music - Mariachi Style featuring the Symphonic Mariachi Champaña Nevin will be performed at the California Theatre in San Bernardino on September 27, 2002, at 7:30 PM with soprano Florencia Tinoco Barone and tenor Daniel Hendrick with Mexico's 20 voice Sacrè Cordi Chorus

Conducted by Jeff Nevin, Ph.D., composer, professor and mariachi trumpetet, the Mariachi Champaña

Nevin has found a niche as an outstanding ensemble of talented musicians who have performed in seven countries and have appeared on television. The Mariachi Champaña Nevin boasts current and former members of Mariachis Vargas, Sol de Mexico, Los Camperos and other groups such as the San Diego Symphony and Orquideas Filarmonica de la Cuidad de Mexico, among others. Continue on Page 2

INLAND EMPIRE CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS PROTEST AGAINST RECALL

The National Alliance for Human Rights and community advocates protested the recall and the opposition to Proposition 54 at the San Bernardino City Hall. Photo by IEHN

Civil rights groups and residents from the Inland Empire gathered in front of the San Bernardino City Hall to protest against the recall of Governor Davis and voiced total support for Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, the sole major Democratic candidate on the ballot in the October 7 election.

Denunciations were also voiced against Proposition 54, the Racial Privacy Initiative that would prohibit the collection of racial data, also on the ballot in the October 7 election.

Dr. Armando Navarro, UCR professor of Ethnic Studies and representative for the National Alliance for Human Rights. Photo by IEHN

NEW RIALTO HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ADDS ELEVEN TO THE INLAND EMPIRE

The recently organized Rialto Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was organized to become the 11th Hispanic chamber of commerce in the Inland Empire. Pictured above are chamber members and guests at a recent meeting at Cuc's Restaurant, a popular Mexican restaurant in Rialto.

Photo by IEHN

The Rialto Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was organized to become the 11th Hispanic chamber of commerce in the Inland Empire. Pictured above are chamber members and guests at a recent meeting at Cuc's Restaurant, a popular Mexican restaurant in Rialto. The recently organized Rialto Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (RHCC) increases to 11 Hispanic chambers of commerce operating in the Inland Empire, stated Aurelio Aguirre, vice president of the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting of the new business group at Cuc's Restaurant, a popular Mexican restaurant in Rialto.

We are pleased that businesspersons have organized to promote Hispanic businesses into a viable force in the City of Rialto. As the Hispanic presence grows in popu
CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY SPEAKS AT LATINO NETWORK AT BREAKFAST MEETING

MALDEF Attorney Thomas A. Saenz was the keynote speaker at the Latino Network's quarterly breakfast at the Zacatecas Restaurant, Riverside. Saenz has been Vice President of Litigation for MALDEF since 2001.

Photo by IEHN

Thomas A. Saenz, Vice President of Litigation at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) was guest speaker at the quarterly breakfast sponsored by Latino Network (LaNet), an active community based advocacy group in Riverside, at the Zacatecas Restaurant, Riverside.

Saenz spoke on the effect of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on two University of Michigan affirmative action cases. The first time the court examined the issue of university admissions was 25 years ago with the case of the University of California vs Bakke.

The issue was whether race could be considered in university admissions. The University of Michigan considered multiple factors in its admission formula, including GPA, test scores, curriculum strength, socioeconomic status, geography, and race, among other factors. Race, stated Saenz, is one of the many factors, which counteracts other factors like geography, legacy preference, and strength of high school.

An amicus brief presented by Saenz and MALDEF Attorney Victor Miramontes in the Supreme Court case, and stated by Saenz (at the breakfast) that in part: Latinos have long been discriminated in this country. Viewpoints formed through the experience of (racial) discrimination can only be captured through reasonable consideration of race. Public educational institutions bear a responsibility to reflect these viewpoints in their student bodies to enhance diversity, to take strong steps to eradicate societal discrimination and to adjust for the continued use of discriminatory admissions criteria.

Supreme Court Judge O'Connor submitted the majority opinion that race is a reasonable consideration with other factors in the admission process.

Dr. Nevin is an award winning classical composer whose works have been performed by the San Diego Symphony, La Jolla Symphony, Mariachi Sol De Mexico, Sol de Mexico Symphony Orchestra and many other ensembles. He is the founder and director of the Mariachi Campana Nevin.

Sinfonia Mexicana Presents "OPERA Y MARIACHI" AT CALIFORNIA THEATRE IN SAN BERNARDINO

Continue from Page 1

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More than 100 elected officials, community leaders and representatives from Corona's public and private sectors joined Chase Home Finance executives recently in a ribbon-cutting ceremony, celebrating the grand opening of the Chase Home Finance Corona Branch. The opening underscored the 10-year $10 billion dollar Dream Maker Commitment to provide home financing for the city's growing multicultural and historically underserved communities. The Corona office is one of seven new mortgage branches scheduled to open in Southern California.

City Opera, San Francisco Opera, Detroit Opera, and other opera in Europe and Mexico. His versatility with powerful Latin songs demonstrates the prowess of his vocal abilities.

For ticket reservations call at (909) 884-7228 or toll free 1-866-687-4284. Purchase tickets at Arts on Fifth, 468 West Fifth Street, San Bernardino (between "D" and "E").

Ticket purchasers who attend the concert will have an opportunity to win a 4-day cruise for two to Ensenada. The drawing will be held the night of the concert.

Fishing San Bernardino County Regional Parks

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Continued from Page 1

Human Rights, a human rights, social and political group, introduced elected officials, civil rights groups' representatives and community leaders, speaking against the recall and Proposition 54.

Navarro said that this political circus occurring as a recall provides the realization for political opportunity to revitalize democracy that is needed throughout the state. "This is a Republican attempt to reverse the system for political gains," he said.

Councilwoman Susan Lien-Longville was critical of the liberal recall law that allows an individual to get the most votes as opposed to one that gets the majority of votes.

David Rao Pruitt, chief of staff for Mayor Judith Valles and candidate for the 62nd Assembly District stated that "this is not the way elections should be handled in the state. "Let us focus on the real issues of education, jobs and let us restore the economy."

Joe Baca Jr. also a candidate for the 62nd Assembly District, alluded to the election held nine months ago and said that California cannot afford elections every few months. Baca stated that the cost of the recall elections could cost taxpayers $70 million, an amount that could be used to hire 2,000 teachers or 1,000 firefighters.

Navarro stated that the current reports of friction between the governor and Bustamante could force the Alliance to reconsider its opposition to the recall. He stated that Davis must not "impede" Bustamante to access financial sources and support. This action by the governor would allow the group to reconsider and move to support the recall.

Many of the speakers spoke against Proposition 54, sponsored by Ward Connerly, a University of California regent. The initiative would prohibit the state to compile data on race or ethnicity relating to employment, public education and in the contractual process.

"This initiative would end the racial classification used in California that was created by slaveholders to keep track of their property," stated Diane Schachterle, spokesperson for NO on Proposition 54 campaign.

"This initiative does not belong in California with our diverse population," she said.

The collection of data on racial and ethnic groups is an established system used for many decades and allows statisticians to evaluate figures in areas of health, education, social and economic care. Baca spoke for Davis, citing his support for Davis, stating that Davis must "not impede" Bustamante to access financial sources and support. This action by the governor would allow the group to reconsider and move to support the recall.

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Ramos received his B.S. Degree in Accounting from Cal-State, San Bernardino and is a successful businessman with various business interests. A co-founder of the San Manuel Tribal Unity and Cultural Awareness Program, Ramos has coordinated the Annual California Indian Cultural Awareness Conference in conjunction with California Native American Day with local educational entities including the San Bernardino School District, County Superintendent of Schools, Cal-State, San Bernardino and the California Superintendent of Public Instruction. “These programs have impacted over 10,000 students in the area with facts on early California history into the present day demographics of California.”

Ramos discussed the major issues in his platform. The dropout rate is a major problem and will work with the board and administration to ensure that counseling and other services are available to at-risk students. The drug and gang problems and the availability of intervention programs is high on his priority, supporting the teachers with added training to enhance their overall performance. “Of utmost importance in my agenda is the participation of both parents in the education of their children, development of business partnerships and protect the financial health of our district, eliminate the waste and redirect the resources to the needs of our students.”

“It is time for new leadership, new ideas and new determination, and a person to make tough decisions. I am running to make a difference.”

Ramos and his wife, Theresa, are the parents of four children currently attending local schools.

LATINOS REPRESENT NEARLY HALF OF THE TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION IN U.S.

Continued from Page 1

Latinos represent 45.2% of the total foreign born population in the U.S. according to a new Census report released today. Of the nation’s 28.4 million foreign born, over 12.8 million identified being of Hispanic origin. Over half, nearly 14.5 million or 51%, identified a Latin American country as their region of birth with over half, 7.8 million, or 54.2% coming from Mexico alone.

“As the Latino electorate grows in importance in the U.S., it is essential to note that 88% of the foreign born that identified a Latin American country as their region of birth were also of voting age or 18 years or older,” stated Robert Aguina, William C. Velásquez Institute (WCVI) Research Coordinator. “Yet only 28.3%, or a little over 4 million, of the foreign born that identified a Latin American country as their region of birth were naturalized citizens,” concluded Aguina. This statistic is compared to a naturalization percentage of 53.1% for the non Latin American foreign born subgroup.

Mexicans comprise the largest group within the Latin American non-citizens numbering 6.2 million or 60.2%. Conversely, Mexicans only represent 38.8% or 1.6 million of the Latin American naturalized. With the Latino electorate numbering over 8 million, immigration reforms discussed between the U.S. and Mexico could dramatically impact the eligible Latino voting pool.

Latin American migrants also were concentrated in a few areas. The areas differ based on the place of birth of the Latin American migrants. 3 out of 4 in the Caribbean live either in the New York or Miami metros. On the other hand, those born in Mexico are found largely in the Los Angeles metro area and the state of Texas. Combined, these two areas account for half of the Mexican-born population, or 3.6 million.

The data comes from a comprehensive report released by the Census on the Internet today. The report covers geographic, demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics of the country’s foreign-born population. Accompanying it are more than 400 pages of tables, including data on country or area of birth and state and metropolitan area of residence. Statistics from sample surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error.

The William C. Velásquez Institute (WCVI) is a non-partisan Latino public policy and research think tank, that examines Latino electoral trends. Since it’s founding in 1985, WCVI has been at the forefront of Latino research in the areas of civic and economic empowerment. For more information, please refer to the website at www.wcvi.org.
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Cuauhtlicio> oT Madrigal remembers the tales his aunts and uncles told about the Depression-era campaign to deport them to Mexico.

Despite being U.S. citizens, six of his relatives were plucked from their home in Los Angeles and deported because they might take the job of a "real American," they told him.

"It was a great injustice and it happened to countless of families," said Madrigal, who now lives in Santa Ana.

Madrigal shared his family's experience at a meeting Friday organized by Mexican-American advocacy groups and the office of Sen. Joe Dunn.

The purpose of the meeting was to shed light on the little-known saga of the deportations of hundreds of thousands of people who were allegedly forced to Mexico during the early 1930s. More than half were U.S. citizens.

"This was coerced immigration. I didn't speak any Spanish and knew nothing about Mexico because I was born in America," said Castaneda, who was loaded onto a train and sent to Mexico at age 9.

Castaneda, who now lives in Riverside, said she lived in rat-infested warehouses, bathed in rivers and contracted typhoid in Mexico. She returned to the United States nearly a decade later, when the country was immersed in World War II, Dunn said.

"The mindset at the time was clear. A Mexican was a Mexican, and it made no difference if he was a legal resident or U.S. citizen," said Francisco Balderrama, a professor of Chicano studies at California State University, Los Angeles.

Balderrama co-authored "Decade of Betrayal," a book that told how federal and local authorities would raid dance halls, markets and theaters in barrios in Los Angeles and other cities. Deportees' property and belongings left behind were often sold by the government, which kept the money from the sale.

"The hysteria at the time made it easy for federal authorities to look the other way, and constitutional rights were ignored," he said.

On Tuesday, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund filed a class action lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court seeking reparations for hundreds of thousands of people who were allegedly forced to Mexico.

"The repatriation of Mexican-Americans falls in the dark chapters of American history that includes slavery and blacks and women not being allowed to vote," said Jess Araujo, a Santa Ana attorney who worked on the suit.

"We owe it to the victims and their families to bring this to everyone's attention," Dunn told the estimated 70 people attending the meeting in Orange. "The U.S. government used the cover of the Depression to rid the country of people from Mexican descent, with the excuse that they were taking jobs from Americans."

Dunn will present legislation next week that would extend the statute of limitations for victims wishing to file claims for damages, and will also commission a state study and ask Congress to review the issue.

The deportations are similar to the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, Dunn said.

Several communities in Los Angeles and Orange counties, including a settlement along Bastanchury Road in north county, vanished after authorities deported their entire populations, Balderrama said.

"The hysteria at the time made it easy for federal authorities to look the other way, and constitutional rights were ignored," he said.

By Fermin Leal

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