JUDGE PATRICK MORRIS ELECTED S.B. MAYOR

Andy Melendrez was sworn in as Riverside's Ward 2 Councilperson.

In a landslide 63.37% of the vote, Judge Patrick Morris became the new San Bernardino mayor after a hard and bitter campaign against City Attorney Jim Pennan. In an overcrowded campaign headquarters, the audience continually applauded Morris and his campaign leaders and workers and city wife, Sally. Morris thanked key campaign supporters for their support.

ANDY MELENDEZ SWORN IN AS RIVERSIDE'S WARD 2 COUNCILPERSON

Andy Melendrez was sworn in as the newest councilperson to represent the City of Riverside's Ward 2, followed by warm applause and cheers in the city hall chamber of family and supporters that had been patiently waiting for the official ceremony. Melendrez was elected to the council seat after winning in a runoff election against Ruby Rasso, a retired Riverside County sheriff deputy, with a vote of 1,805 and 1,205, respectively.

This exhilarating moment is a political victory for Melendez and the mostly Hispanic audience. The last Hispanic to be elected to the city council was Ernie Pintor, who served until 1979, when he was not re-elected. Before Pintor, the legendary Andy Sotelo was the first Hispanic to be elected to the Riverside City Council.

COLLEGE READINESS/MATH ADDED GOALS, STATES COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Emphasizing the importance of county students being better prepared to enter the colleges and universities, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Herbert Fischer highlighted the progress made by students in county schools at the seventh annual State of Education Address at the Sturges Center for the Fine Arts.

In his annual theme address Learning For A Lifetime, Fischer strongly stressed the need for students to be fully prepared to enter and compete in the 21st century economy, coupled with an overview of public education in the County of San Bernardino.

While county students have increased college-going rate by 44.9 percent during the last five reported years, the area still trails most of California in the numbers of high school graduates going to college, he said.

Continuing the upward trend of college-going figures, Fischer elaborated on collaborative programs among the county offices, school districts, and educational partners, established by the county office of education.

RIVERSIDE'S WARD 2 COUNCILPERSON

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CONTINUES ON—
ANDY MELENDREZ SWORN IN AS RIVERSIDE’S WARD 2 COUNCILPERSON

Continued from page 1

In an interview with IEHN, Melendrez said that on election night he and his election workers watched as the absentee votes were coming in. When the trend showed the votes were favoring his candidacy, he became very excited, contrary to his normal composure.

Ward 2 is composed of the University Corridor, Eastside, Sycamore Canyon, and Canyon Crest. The Eastside includes UCR, University Avenue, and aside from the high traffic volume, there are gangs, drugs, and prostitution. The Sycamore area has a large warehousing and distributing centers and other areas have other needs that I will be addressing.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES ON SHOOTING OF SERVICEMAN

Continued from page 1

The Sheriff Department, as is its policy, has continued its investigation, however, sheriff officials have not indicated when the investigation will be concluded.

Controversy has followed the shooting, due primarily to the dialogue in the tape between the deputy and Carrion, who was lying prone on the ground. The voice by Carrion, attempting to follow orders, was heard to be saying, “I’m with the military,” and a response by the deputy, “OK,” followed by “You believe me? Alright,” Carrion was heard to say, the deputy replied, “OK, Get up. Get up,” the deputy ordered, “OK, I’m going to get up,” Carrion said. Seconds later, Carrion lay wounded on the Chino Street, having been shot three times.

The shooting alarms many in the Hispanic community. Father Patricio Guillen, co-director of Libreria Del Pueblo, in an interview, stated, “We feel badly in this matter. We should not tolerate this type of shooting, especially to a young man who is serving our country. This was an irresponsible action on the part of the deputy. The community should see the tape and have a meeting with the sheriff to protest this action.”

The investigation is continuing, stated Robin Haynal, Sheriff Department public information. “We are conducting a thorough investigation and when completed, a report will be submitted to the district attorney for their decision of the investigation.”

Dr. Armando Navarro, in an interview with the IEHN, stated, “We are involved with the important Summit at the present time. Many of us in the Hispanic community are very frustrated with what has happened to this young man. However, the National Alliance for Human Rights will be meeting with the Carrion family on this urgent matter. Furthermore, we will also be contacting other civil rights leaders and collaboratively confront this issue.”

The hardest thing in the world to understand is income tax.

Albert Einstein

(NAPS)
YET AGAIN, REPUBLICANS VOTE AGAINST
HARD-WORKING AMERICANS

Immmoral Republican Budget passes House
by 216 to 214 vote

Washington, D.C. — The Congressional Hispanic Caucus expressed its
outrage over budget priorities that are out of touch with the American
people. By a vote of 216 to 214, the House of Representative approved the
"Deficit Reduction Act" (also referred to as the Budget Reconciliation
Spending Cuts Act), which slashes $39 billion out of vital programs in
healthcare, education, and other services that assist working-class people.

These funding cuts are being used by Republicans to help pay for another
bill currently moving through Congress that contains $56 billion in tax
cuts for the wealthiest. When combined, these two bills will actually
increase the deficit by $17 billion over the next five years.

Latinos will be disproportionately affected by the budget cuts as many
fall in the low and middle income brackets. Not one Democrat voted in
favor of the bill, which will now be sent to the President for his signature.

For many of our Latino families, this is a real setback that will force
them to make even more difficult choices, between paying for
healthcare or their child's education or perhaps neither.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) is comprised of 21 members of
Congress of Hispanic descent. Since 1976 the CHC has been ad‐
dressing the needs of the Hispanic community in all areas of American
life. For more information on the CHC, call (202) 225-2410.

ALLIANCE for EDUCATION—a partnership of 1,200 education, busi‐
ness, labor, community and faith‐
based partners working workforce
needs and state's world-class educa‐
tional standards.

THREE REGIONAL P-16 COUN‐
CILS—The Councils have resolved to
make A-G coursework completion the
expectation for all students. Studies
have shown that students mastering
the demanding curriculum are more
assuredly to remain in school.

The PROMISE INITIATIVE—Purs‐
suing Regional Opportunities for
Mentoring, Innovation and Success
for English Learners, an extremely
successful project that has existed for
several years, created by a partnership
among six Southern California offices
of education, a school district in each
county, and several schools in each of
the districts. Utilizing research-based
core principles; the teams design,
implement, and evaluate customized
programs to close the achievement
gap for English learners. (editor’s
note—the annual PROMISE regional
conferences, covered by IEHN, fully
attended, reflects the interest by bi‐
lingual parents in the Southern Cali‐
fornia area for the education of their
children.)

Fischer cited the accomplishments
of county schools. Standardized test
scores have risen for county students
for six consecutive years, with this
year’s 18 point gain the Academic
Performance Index, and the second
highest for the past six years.

He stated that Hispanic and Black
students have shown a significant
gain, thus closing the achievement
gap.

"Math is a priority. Fischer said.
"The majority of our students still
have difficulties with algebra and
higher math.

"Math is the gatekeeper that keeps
our students out of college. We must
move forward, not stand still until all
our students are lifelong learners."

An article in the Los Angeles
times, published on Friday, February
3, 2006, (Inland Empire edition, page
2) stated that according to Trends in
International Mathematics and
Science Study, the United States was in
ninth place (tied with Latvia) in math
in comparison with 12 major indu‐
trialized countries. The study found
that U.S. 15-year-olds scored low on
the PISA mathematics test. (Re‐
source: American Institutes for Re‐
search).

Fischer also stated his strong sup‐
port for the Preschool For All, an ini‐
tiative sponsored by film director Rob
Reiner, that would ensure that every
4-year-old in California is given an
opportunity to attend preschool. If
the initiative passes, the responsibility
for implementing will probably be
placed at the county office of education.
Many educators are supportive of the
initiative.

Fischer announced that he is a can‐
idate to run for re-election this year.
BACA CALLS FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM, CRITICIZES INEFFECTIVE, MEAN-SPRITED BILL

A bill to help reduce the corrupting influence of corporations and millionaires donors in the political process in California passed an important hurdle Tuesday afternoon with a narrow 4-3 approval in the Assembly Elections Committee.

AB 583, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act, provides for public financing for candidates who agree to voluntarily accept limits on contributions from big money interests.

"Enactment of AB 583 would be a significant step forward to lifting the stain on our democracy and political system so evident nationally in the Abramoff and DeLay scandals," said Rose Ann DeMoro, executive director of the California Nurses Association, a key sponsor of the bill.

"In California, this vote and the grassroots movement that has been building for the bill, symbolizes the growing voter revolt against two successive governors and the legislature for the embarrassment of cash registers," DeMoro said.

Introduced by Assembly member Lon Hancock (D-Berkeley), the bill next heads to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. As legislation carried over from last year, the bill must clear the full Assembly by the end of January. In addition to CNA, other supporters include the League of Women Voters; Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, Gray Panthers, Sierra Club, and the California Clean Money Campaign.

Voting for the bill today were Assembly members Johan Kiehs (D-Hayward), Betty Karnette (D-Los Angeles), Mark Leno (D-SF), and Lloyd Levin (D-Van Nuys). Voting no were Tom Umberg (D-Anaheim), Mark Wyland (R-Vista), and Michael Villines (R-Clovis).

Voting for AB 583 would make California the fourth state to establish a clean money system with public financing, following Connecticut, which just enacted its law late last year, Maine and Arizona, most candidates now adhere to the clean money guidelines, and as a result of the reform more women, minorities and working people have been able to run for office and win.

DeMoro called the effort to change the political system a "bold step forward in reinvigorating our democracy and helping to restore faith in government."

The best measure of a man's honesty isn't his income tax return. It is the zero adjust on his bathroom scale.

Arthur C. Clarke (NAPS)
CHICAGO – The “For Sale by Owner” (FSBO) sign grabs your attention as you wend your way through the neighborhood you have been wanting to call home. You figure it must be a good deal because the seller will have to pay a commission to a real estate agent.

Well, think again, warns Kevin L. Shepherd, chair-elect of the Real Property, Probate, and Trust Law Section of the American Bar Association. “Most people who sell their homes without the assistance of a real estate broker do not have a thorough understanding of the market, and are more likely to price their property higher than it is worth.”

In fact, FSBO is typically not a wise decision for the seller either. The seller will not have access to the many resources that real estate agents have to attract buyers – especially the Multiple Listing Service. In addition, responsibilities include handling the advertising of the home, being available to show the home to potential buyers, and negotiating the sale price and contract provisions.

“Buying or selling a home is such a major undertaking – the biggest financial deal most people make in their lives – that it’s surprising people think they can save money by going it alone. In reality, it may cost them much more in the end,” explains Shepherd. Among the many factors that affect your role as a buyer or seller include state and federal law, the economy, your personal preferences, your financial situations, the prevailing real estate market, current mortgage rates, and tax considerations.

In almost any real estate transaction, several people need to be involved. “Don’t view it as a tennis match between a single buyer and seller, but as a team sport where each player has a specific role,” says Kathy Matthews, a real estate broker in Chicago’s northwest suburbs. These experts include real estate agents, attorneys, lenders, home inspectors, appraisers, surveyors, title companies, homeowner associations, local property inspectors, insurance agents, and sometimes contractors.

Buying and selling real estate always entails a written contract. Professional real estate agents and real estate attorneys are trained to handle the mounds of paperwork and contracts associated with the sale and purchase of a home.

When should you consult an attorney? According to the American Bar Association’s Family legal Guide, buyers will want an attorney to enter the process when they are ready to make an offer, and, certainly, before they sign an offer to purchase. Sellers should consult an attorney early in the process and before signing a listing agreement with a real estate agent.

To find a lawyer with experience in real estate issues or any other type of law, contact your local Lawyer Referral program. Visit the ABA’s web site at www.aganet.org/referral for a listing of the more than 300 Lawyer referral programs throughout the country, or check your Yellow pages under Lawyer Referral.

Lawyers who are registered with the Lawyer Referral program are in good standing with the state bar associations and are considered qualified in the areas of practice. When you call the referral program, a trained staff person will determine the nature of your legal question and will give you a name of a lawyer to contact.

If you are referred to a lawyer by the service, you will be entitled to a half-hour initial consultation at no charge, or for a nominal fee – typically $35 or less – that helps to fund the local Lawyer Referral program.

More than 10 million callers are helped annually with legal information through public service Lawyer Referral programs. The ABA Standing Committee on Lawyer Referral and Information Service approves public service Lawyer Referral programs that provide consumers help and information through referrals to the public agencies and lawyers qualified in particular areas of law.

With more than 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law in a democratic society.

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Please join us as we host an open house where you can learn more about beginning a fresh, new career with the nation’s leading provider of school bus transportation.

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To learn more please contact Donna Fenton at (800)749-4009
FIRST NATIONAL STUDY OF DAY LABORERS EXPOSES ABUSE, INJURIES
BY Meg Sullivan, msullivan@support.ucla.edu and Carol Stogsdill, cstickgsdill@support.ucla.edu

They attend church, raise children and participate in community activities and institutions. Yet, when America's day laborers go to work, they have experiences that would shock any upstanding community member: police harassment, violence at the hands of employers, withheld wages and conditions so dangerous that is not unusual for them to be sidelined for more than a month with work-related injuries or to work for weeks on end in pain.

This is the vivid portrait painted by the first nationwide study of America's 117,600 day laborers. Orchestrated by social scientists from UCLA, the University of Illinois at Chicago and New York's New School University, "On the Corner, Day Labor in the United States" presents findings from a survey of 264 hiring sites in 143 municipalities in 20 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

The goal was to document a population that, though quite visible on the corners of U.S. cities, is poorly understood by the public and by policy makers," said Nik Theodore, an assistant professor in the Urban Planning and Policy Program at the University of Illinois, Chicago, and one of the study’s three lead authors. "We hope to inform policy debates so that decision-makers can devise thoughtful and effective strategies for resolving many of the problems that day laborers face."

Three years in the making, the report includes the first ever national count of U.S. day laborers, little-known characteristics of these workers' backgrounds and troubling aspects of their working conditions across five U.S. regions: the West, Midwest, Southwest, South and East.

"Day labor has been thrust into the public consciousness, but we're concerned that the debate has gone on without an understanding of what gives rise to the phenomenon or what the many downsides are to work in this field," said Abel Valenzuela, a UCLA social scientist and study co-author.

Among the findings:

- Once contained to ports-of-entry cities along the East and West coasts, day labor is now a nationwide phenomenon, spilling into small and rural towns throughout America, including the South and Midwest. Day labor may be widespread, but the total count of these workers is actually one tenth to one-twentieth the size bandied about by anti-immigration forces.

- Wage theft is the most common abuse suffered by day laborers, with nearly half of all workers having been denied payment in the two months prior to the survey.

- Just over three-quarters of day laborers are undocumented immigrants, meaning that the share of American citizens working in day labor is much higher than commonly supposed and that day laborers account for only a small fraction of the estimated 7-11 million undocumented immigrants in America today.

Valenzuela, Theodore and New School economist Edwin Melendez directed teams of surveyors during July and August 2004 as they interviewed 2,660 randomly selected day laborers at 264 hiring sites across the nation.

Interviewers asked about the workers' educational backgrounds, family lives, occupational histories and experiences as day laborers, including injuries sustained on the job and the nature and frequency of abuse at the hands of employers, merchants, police and security guards.

Using statistical methods pioneered by researchers of another shifting and growing population that, though quite visible across the 11-million undocumented immigrants in America today, a portrait previously considered too difficult to capture. The national Healthcare disparities Report and the National Healthcare Quality Report are released annually (Carey, CQ HealthBeat, 1/9). AHRQ finds that 59% of disparity measures were widening for Latinos, while 41% were decreasing. AP/New Day news reports on Treatments for diabetes, mental illness and tuberculosis, as well as dental and preventative care, were among the areas in which disparities for Latinos were increasing. Among blacks, 58% of disparities were becoming smaller, and 42% were increasing. In addition, AHRQ reported that in five out of six categories of access to care, disparities increased for Latino. Those disparities narrowed in all categories for blacks, Asians and American Indians.

Washington - The right wing of the Republican Party muscled anti-immigration legislation through the House of Representatives on Friday, despite the strong objections of People For the American Way and a broad array of groups including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Council of La Raza and the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

The legislation, titled the Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act (H.R. 4437), is a textbook enforcement-only bill that mirrors the decades of failed policies that have made a mockery of our immigration system. It is an approach that People For the American Way President Ralph G. Neas has said will simply not work.

"This enforcement-only legislation repeats an approach that has proven time and again that it does not work," Neas said. "Real reform must be comprehensive, but unfortunately, it seems as though many members of Congress would rather demonize the issue than fix the problems."

This deeply flawed bill's enforcement-only approach is a far cry from the comprehensive immigration reform approach that is needed to make our immigration system safe and orderly. The bill would gut the fundamental due process rights of immigrants; make criminals out of working taxpayers, even if they are guilty of only technical violations of immigration laws; and militarize the border.

Experts agree that successful reform must allow for future flows of workers that are necessary for economic growth, create a path to earned legalization for the estimated 11 million undocumented workers in the U.S., and reduce the backlog in processing applications so families can reunite with their loved ones.

DISPARITIES IN HEALTH CARE GROWING FOR LATINOS, GAP CLOSES FOR OTHER MINORITIES, STUDY SAYS.

While health care disparities for most U.S. minorities compared with whites are narrowing, Latinos are falling further behind, according to a study by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, AP/Long Island Newsday. AHRQ released reports using data mostly from 2002 and 2003 that examined disparities in 46 different health care measures, along with six categories of access to care (Freking, Long Island Newsday, 1/9).

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Officials say they cannot identify the reasons for the gaps in health care for Latinos. Carolyn Clancy, director of AHRQ, said, "The fact that we know it exists prompts a lot of local communities to say, 'What is going on here?' and to figure the disparities, adding that she did not know the extent to which illegal immigration plays a role.

Elena Rios, president and CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, said that two out of every five Hispans are uninsured, including both legal and illegal immigrants. The quality of care for U.S. residents as a whole increased by 2.8%, the same rate as in last year’s report, Clancy said (AP/Long Island Newsday, 1/9). You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the reports. A webcast is available online at kaiserhealthnews.org.

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Community Action Partnership of Riverside County

CONGRATULATIONS

To the Community Mentors of 2005 of The Riverside County Mentoring Collaborative

PROJECT LEAD
Della Alvarado
Jose Arellano
Rachel Ayers
Ruby Carson
Ana Chavez
Herencia Cortes
Tina Holleman
Ray Avie Jr.
Barbara Mckenzie
Kevin Nguyen
Janette Sol
Matthew Pryor
Ilana Ruiz
Natalie Marie Oliver
Mary Esther Sherman

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Erin Maricha
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Teresa Thompson

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Abigail Ocampo
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Karina Recko
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Rosa Rojas
Horia Rodriguez
Jesus Ruiz
Veronica Santillan
Eduardo Serna
Jose Bolorzano
Gualupir Tomas
Abraham Vaquero
Nica Vera

SILVIGHT PERIOD
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Raul Andrade
Karely Aquirre
Manuel Soto
Enedina Ramos
Hugo Riquero
Jose Flores
Rebecca Jacobo
Ahlisa Jara

SILVIGHT PERIOD
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Takzi Lozano
Nicholas Mee
Jose Martinez
Abigail Ocampo
Martha Ornelas
Rodrigo Ornelas
Laura Ponce
Karina Recko
Blanca Ramirez
Jose Regalado
Rosa Rojas
Horia Rodriguez
Jesus Ruiz
Veronica Santillan
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Manuel Soto
Enedina Ramos
Hugo Riquero
Jose Flores
Rebecca Jacobo
Ahlisa Jara

VIEWUNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
William Andrews
Gary Cutsop
Peg Feneman
Molly Hambly
Pat Kelley
Norm Kelley
Denell Martin
Rob Palmer
Jessica Rogers
Tom Segal
Laura Vaughn

PERRIS H.S. ELD:
Teacher-Larry Sanchez

1st/2nd Period
Victor Alvarez
Angelita Andrade
Eduardo Arina
Portazo Brandi
Alexa Baraza
Marco Bustos
Nielojo Camilo
Karen Erenes
Manuel Hernandez
Silvia Flores
Sayra Gutierrez
Yovanna Leon

Diane Lopez
Yadira Loya Rodriguez
Griselda Marin
Ingrid Marquez
Bruce Martinez
Karlo Molina
Alicia Moreno
Norma Oropeza
Cihlila Palmomares
Jennifer Pinuela
Endrina Pinuela
Inno Riveras
Meriel Soto
Jardelina Valencia

3rd/4th Period
Karely Aquirre
Paul Andrade
Joanall Barajas
Naia Carrielino
Hugo Riquero
Jose Flores
Rebecca Jacobo
Ahlisa Jara

4th/5th Period
Gabriel Ldon
Takzi Lozano
Nicholas Mee
Jose Martinez
Abigail Ocampo
Martha Ornelas
Rodrigo Ornelas
Laura Ponce
Karina Recko
Blanca Ramirez
Jose Regalado
Rosa Rojas
Horia Rodriguez
Jesus Ruiz
Veronica Santillan
Eduardo Serna
Jose Bolorzano
Gualupir Tomas
Abraham Vaquero
Nica Vera

5th/6th Period
Natalia Caballero
Raul Andrade
Karely Aquirre
Manuel Soto
Enedina Ramos
Hugo Riquero
Jose Flores
Rebecca Jacobo
Ahlisa Jara

Community Action Partnership of Riverside County

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Zania Quintero
Yeny Rodriguez
Javier Salasom
Crisitma Santillan
Wendy Valencia

Moreno Valley Youth Accountability Board

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Phone: (951) 955-4900
Funded by: California State Department of Community Services and Development
The San Bernardino City Unified School District is sponsoring a Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, February 25, 2006. The fair will be held at San Bernardino Adult Education Building, 1900 North "E" Street, in San Bernardino. More information & to schedule an interview, please call (909) 381-1298.

Casa De Flores
342 S. Mt. Vernon Ave. San Bernardino, CA 92410
(909) 885-7051
Monday Friday 10:00 a.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sunday - Closed

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ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Yolanda Urena is a math major at Valley College and wants to apply her skills in the scientific field. She is a mother and a part-time student. "At first I was intimidated when I started college, but then I learned about all the possibilities at Valley and there's no stopping me now!"

"Enhancing your life with quality education."

(If you have a message from California Department of Health Services funded by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Department of Public Health Nutrition Program Human Services System County of San Bernardino Project LEAN and the Nutrition Network Grant 99-85867, please call Patrick: 562-964-9506. To Stop Smoking Start Here.


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Services are also available at the Pediatrics Clinic at ARMC.

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