August 23rd 2006

Hispanic News

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LENT US HONOR OUR WORKERS ON LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

L.A. LABOR LEADER-MARIA ELENA DURAZO

Maria Elena Durazo is one of the most powerful labor leaders in the County of Los Angeles, and without a doubt, a powerful and dynamic force in the labor movement throughout Southern California.

On May 15, 2006, Durazo was elected to serve as Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the top staff position in the union hierarchy (and the first woman), a position previously held by her husband, Dr. Hector Garcia in 1948 in Corpus Christi, Texas, as a result of World War II veterans unable to receive medical attention at veteran hospitals, discrimination in housing and civil rights issues.

The following key organizing leaders are working to mobilize their respective communities:

- LATINO NETWORK-Riverside - Armando Gonzales-Coban - (951) 780-7206 latinxnetwork@earthlink.net
- HISPANOS UNIDOS - Moreno Valley - Gilberto Esquivel - (909) 519-5588
- CCAEJ - Mina Loma - Glen Avon, San Bernardino - Esther Portillo (951) 920-8451 Esther.pr.ccajej.org
- COMITE LATINO VALLE DE COACHELLA - Lucia Juan - (909) 889-2799
- LIBRERIA DEL PUEBLO - San Bernardino - Father Patricio Guillen - (760) 880-0116
- LATINO VOTERS 2006 need volunteers, especially young volunteers, in each community to register as many voters and GET OUT THE VOTE, and give the Latinos a major voice in the elections and the political system.

For Information, or to forward local registration organizations and events call (951) 780-7206 or e-mail at latinovoteriv@earthlink.net.
The help of the We Are America Alliance. In July We Are America, a coalition of national and community-based immigrant-rights groups, kicked off a nationwide campaign to register one million voters for the midterm elections. In May, the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project launched a $1.1 million voter-registration and get-out-the-vote campaign targeting the sons and daughters of immigrants. And on August 1, syndicated radio DJ Renan Almendarez Coello, known as “El Cucuy” started a two-week bus tour from San Francisco to Washington, DC, to help get one million new voters registered by November.

Democrats and Republicans may dismiss young voters as disengaged and potential no-shows at the polls, but these groups are counting on the young US-born children of immigrants to make a difference starting this November, and even more so in 2008. A recent report by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and the Center for Community Change puts the number of potential young voters in perspective:

- Nearly 2 million US-born children of immigrants, 18-24, are not yet registered to vote.
- Nearly 2 million US-born children of immigrants, 18-24, are not yet registered to vote.
- More than 1 million additional US-born children of immigrants will be eligible to vote by 2008.
- In California alone there are 1 million US-born children of immigrants, ages 18-24. If mobilization could change the course of the 2006 midterm elections. Adding them to the population of legal immigrants of all ages would create a nationwide bloc of more than 14 million potential voters.

Organizers are aware of the challenge they face: Young people vote at lower rates than the rest of the country; Latinos vote at lower rates than blacks and whites; among 16-29-year-old Asians, voter participation has fallen in recent years. But organizers are also hopeful. First, they say, statistics don’t paint a complete picture, since the voting habits of the children of immigrants aren’t well documented. Certainly not all Latinos or Asians are immigrants or even the children of immigrants—nevertheless, these two groups showed up in big numbers at immigration marches.

Among many organizers, the best strategy is to get young people talking to their peers, by recruiting and encouraging them to vote, the young people in the street at immigration marches will translate into victories on election day. Studies show that a young person asking a peer to vote raises the likelihood of turnout by 8 to 12 percent.

In Massachusetts, the Student Immigrant Movement (SIM) has allied with the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) in recent months with the goal of registering 7,000 US-born children of immigrants by the midterm elections. SIM is one of several organizations nationwide created to push for the passage of DREAM Act—a bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate to allow immigrant students to pay in-state tuition for college.

Carlos Santos, SIM’s 20-year-old co-founder, says the immigration marches made him optimistic about the sometimes-daunting prospect of galvanizing young voters. “We’re going to takeover the streets not marching, but doing voter registration,” he says. SIM and MIRA are working strategically to target where they can make a difference.

Santos is clear that the goal is to urge voters to support candidates who defend immigrant rights—but he is less clear about who those candidates are. While many young organizers are optimistic about their ability to get their peers to the polls, they’re not so positive about whom they’ll vote for. In Massachusetts, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Reilly has said he would consider deputizing state troopers to enforce federal immigration laws—a plan most organizers find repugnant.

While Republicans were the dominant force behind HR 4437, not all Democrats are strong advocates of immigrant rights, say organizers. Several Senate campaigns provide an example: In Arizona, Democrat Jim Pederson campaign website declares that illegal immigration is endangering our security, putting a huge burden on our communities’ schools and hospitals. In Missouri, Democrat Claire McCaskill includes building border fences as part of her immigration strategy. In Montana, Matt McKenna, spokesman for Jon Tester, indicates the Democratic candidate “would not offer amnesty to illegal immigrants.”

Without clear-cut political heroes, young activists might have a difficult time getting their peers to the polls. Some organizers fear that without a strong showing this November, the immigrant rights movement will lose momentum. But newly minted young activists say their organizations will provide a foundation for future efforts—in and out of electoral politics.

“It’s exciting,” says Castellanos. “It’s history going on again.”

Paloma Esquivel graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A. in Human Geography, and the University of Syracuse with an M.A. in Journalism. Reprinted with permission from the Nation magazine. For subscription information, call HTTP://www.thenation.com.

FIVE QUESTIONS CANCER PATIENTS MAY NOT KNOW TO ASK THEIR ONCOLOGIST

(NAPS) — An estimated 10 million Americans alive today have faced a cancer diagnosis. Fortunately, advances in cancer care and treatment have dramatically improved survival rates and overall quality of life. That improvement is largely due to patients who are taking an active role in their cancer treatment. The next step is to find out how to maintain a healthy lifestyle and properly care for your entire body.

Many patients focus on questions about their cancer treatment, as they often don’t think about other facets of their disease,” said Dr. G. David Boodman, Director of Myeloma Program, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and Director of Bone Biology Center, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. “One important consideration that is often overlooked is the impact of cancer on the bone, which may lead to fractures and be debilitating.”

Will cancer and its treatment affect other parts of my body?

Several of the most common types of cancer (e.g., breast, lung, prostate, and kidney) can spread from the original tumor site to invade the bone, a process known as bone metastasis. Multiple myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cell, can also progress to the bone. It is important that you visit your oncologist to conduct a full medical examination to determine if your cancer has metastasized and learn how you can take action to protect your bones.

Should I be concerned about other medical conditions, such as diabetes or heart disease, and their impact on cancer?

Preexisting medical conditions put you at higher risk for developing complications throughout your cancer treatment. It is important you speak with the doctor who has been overseeing your condition as well as your oncologist to determine the most appropriate treatment options.

Do I still need to see my other health care professionals (primary care physician, gynecologist, dentist) since I am under the care of my oncologist?

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Inland Empire Hispanic News

Wednesday, August 23, 2006

FROM THE STREETS TO THE POLLS

By Paloma Esquivel

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Continued from page 1
You want to be a good parent. You try to talk to your teenager about what’s happening in his or her life. You want to help with the problems and uncertainties he or she is facing. And yet it often feels as if you’re each from different planets. There doesn’t seem to be a common language, and your efforts elicit only stony silences, meaningless grunts or outright hostility over your daring to communicate. That inability to connect makes many parents wonder just what’s “wrong” either with them or their child.

In reality, there isn’t necessarily anything “wrong.” Rather, there are real reasons why teen-parent communications can be difficult.

One is that it isn’t easy being a teenager, especially in today’s world. Normal teenage development brings a variety of unsettling biological, psychological and emotional changes. Add the pressures of school, extracurricular activities, a part-time job and the anxiety of college or a career just around the corner, and it becomes clearer why the open communication of the pre-teen years suddenly seems more difficult.

Teenagers often feel that parents just can’t understand all the changes the teen is facing. And while parents don’t mean to, some of their actions actually promote such views as the parents react to the growing independence most teens seek.

Teenagers recognize they’re becoming more mature and more capable of making their own decisions. It’s natural to desire more freedom and the trust of their parents. And while we want to encourage independence in our children (do you really want your child still living in the basement when he’s 37?), we also know that it’s a dangerous world out there. As a result we often hesitate, out of concern for their safety, to grant our teens the independence and responsibility they desire. For the teen, that’s easy to interpret as a lack of trust.

As a result, when teens have concerns and problems they want to discuss, the first person they usually turn to is another teen, according to research studies. A second choice is a trusted adult, but someone outside the immediate family. Why? It’s seldom because teens dislike or don’t trust their parents. More often it’s a fear that when they share feelings of uncertainty or insecurity, their parents will see them as still immature and unready for the freedoms they so badly desire. Opening up to a parent makes the teen feel vulnerable and no teen wants that.

Teenagers also recognize they need their parents’ love and respect in order to gain their freedom, so they often hesitate to present only their strengths and best side to their parents. If they talk about things that worry or scare them, or mistakes they’ve made, it’s going to make their parents even less willing to trust them.

But while all this makes parent-teen communication hard to accomplish, it’s important not to give up the effort. Even when most attempts lead nowhere, sometimes the door will open to real communication. As importantly, your attempts to stay connected with your teen, even when unsuccessful, still demonstrate your love and concern.

It can also help to communicate your own fears and anxieties about granting increased freedoms. If your teen can hear you explain why you hesitate to say yes to his or her requests for greater responsibility, it may not win acceptance and total understanding of your decision, but it can help open up a meaningful dialogue and lead to compromises where you both feel more accepting of the outcome.

Look for opportunities to let your teenage know that you do sympathize with at least some of the things he or she is facing. Be understanding when mistakes are made. Offer positive feedback when your teen shows good judgment or takes on more responsibility. Let him or her know that your trust and respect is being earned.

Opening up parent-teen communication takes work, but it’s worth the effort. When communication with your teen is almost non-existent, or consists mostly of angry shouting, nobody is happy and it’s time to take action. Don’t expect miracles, but meaningful communication between parents and a teen is certainly possible.

The Counseling Corner” is provided as a public service by the American Counseling Association, the nation’s largest organization of counseling professionals. Additional information for consumers and counseling professionals is available through the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

L.A. LABOR LEADER-MARIA ELENA DURAZO

August 13, 2006

Durazo has been influential for decades prior to her recent appointment. In 1989, Durazo was elected president of the hotel workers union, UNITE-HERE, Local 11. She restructured the union to become one of the most active labor groups in Los Angeles County. With a reputation for being a firebrand, contentious and tough and using extreme tactics, she was able to improve wages and benefits for hotel workers. Known for organizing and leading successful worker campaigns, she was able to draw national attention to the plight of the workers in the Los Angeles area.

In 1996, Durazo became the first Latina elected to the executive board of UNITE-HERE, International Union. In 2001, as an executive board member, she was elected General Vice President of UNITE-HERE International, a position that represents approximately 250,000 workers in the hospitality industry in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

In 2003, she became National Director of the Immigrant Workers’ Freedom Ride, a national mobilization campaign initiated by HERE Internationa to address the nation’s immigration laws.

One of the her most significant achievements was her election in 2004 as executive vice president of newly-formed UNITE-HERE International, representing over 440,000 members and more than 400,000 retirees throughout North America.

This position allowed Durazo to represent a diverse group of immigrant, Latinos, African-Americans and Asian-Americans in areas of apparel, textile manufacturing and distribution, industrial laundries, hotels, casinos, food services, airport concessions, and restaurants.

In her new appointment as secretary-treasurer, Durazo works with other unions, leaders of business and government; and helps elect union-friendly candidates who will pass laws that will support labor, and further support business and new development that agree to welcome unionized workers.

Durazo is a friend and close ally of both Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez. What makes Maria Elena Durazo strive for the betterment of the workers who are at average pay scale of work and/or unable to fight for self-improved economic betterment? Durazo was the seventh in a family of 11 children growing up in a family of migrant workers that followed the crops from town to town. Typically living in whatever was available, whether in modest rentals or tents in the open fields. As a consequence, the children went to several schools during the harvest seasons.

The first in the family to attend college, with a goal of being an attorney, she graduated from St. Mary’s College in Moraga, and later attended People’s College of Law- which Villaraigosa also attended.

Inspired by Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers Crusade in the 1980’s, she quit and joined the labor movement and became an organizer in the sweatshops of Los Angeles. The rest is history.

Durazo has spoken before Congressional Committees on labor issues, and has been invited to speak before civil rights and labor conferences, including the Martin Luther Civil Rights Conferences.

She was selected Woman of the Year, 2001, by Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, and one of the top 100 Influential Hispanics, 2004, by Hispanic Business Magazine, and many other recognitions.

In a previous interview, when asked what inspired her, she readily recalled a vivid scene: “In a church in the central valley of the San Joaquin Valley, I must have been a child of five, and saw a small coffin being carried down the aisle. It was my infant brother who died because my parents couldn’t get him to a doctor. The priest asked for a collection so the family could bury him.

“How could that be that 11 kids and two adults working in the fields every day didn’t have enough money to bury one of the family. How could that be?”

Wisdom is what’s left after we’ve run out of personal opinions.

Cullen Hightower
STATE BAR UPDATES SENIORS & THE LAW
BY KRISTINA HORTON FLAHERTY — CALIFORNIA BAR JOURNAL

Where can a senior go, by law, for a free hot meal in any county? Can a senior get a tax break if he or she downsizes to a smaller home? Can seniors legally grab bars and lowered countertops in their homes over a landlord's objection? Will they lose Social Security benefits if they go back to work? Do they have a special right to keep pets in a rented apartment? And can a senior's children ever be legally required to care for the senior if he or she becomes penniless and bedridden?

The answers to these and many more questions can be found in the State Bar's recently revised Seniors & the Law: A Guide for Maturing Californians. First printed in 2003, Seniors and the Law a free, comprehensive guide aimed at helping seniors and their grown children make sense of a wide range of law-related issues and rights that affect California's seniors in their day-to-day lives.

With an estimated 5.5 million residents age 60 or older, California is the most senior-populated state in the nation—and the ranks are growing. But so, too, are the many laws related to seniors and the many programs geared to assist us.

Some of the questions addressed in the updated Seniors & the Law include:

- MAKING ENDS MEET: What is a reverse mortgage? Is there any assistance available if I lose Social Security benefits if I become penniless?
- CHOOSING WHERE TO LIVEn: Can I get health insurance after my retirement? Do I need long-term care insurance? Is there any special assistance available if I take time off work to care for my aiding mother?
- HANDLING ELDER ABUSE: What is a revocable living trust?
- GETTING AROUND: Can the DMV simply limit my driving rights rather than revoke my license? Are there any special accommodations for me if I am disabled or unable to drive?
- OBTAINING HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS: Can I get health insurance after my retirement? Do I have any right to visit my grandchildren?
- FINDING A CAREGIVER OR NURSING HOME: How do I find help for my elderly mother who wants to continue living in her own home? Is there any assistance available if I am raising mail to seniors@calbar.ca.gov. In the past, this guide has been distributed free of charge in six languages—English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Tagalog.

Senior forums were scheduled in Long Beach, Riverside, Cathedral City and Coachella (where the forum was conducted in Spanish). Particular emphasis was placed on the various forms of elder abuse, from physical to psychological to financial abuse. In addition, the guide is being distributed with the California Bar Journal this month and will be inserted in 270,000 copies of the Senior Life newspaper as well.

More than 1 million copies have been distributed free of charge in six languages—English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Tagalog.

Some of the questions addressed in the updated Seniors & the Law include:

- MAKING ENDS MEET: What is a reverse mortgage? Is there any assistance available if I lose Social Security benefits if I become penniless?
- CHOOSING WHERE TO LIVE: Can a younger person live with me in an age-restricted senior housing development? Can my landlord prohibit me from keeping a pet?
- OBTAINING HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS: Can I get health insurance after my retirement? Do I need long-term care insurance?
- PLANNING AHEAD: How can I ensure that my affairs will be handled my way if I become incapacitated?
- What is a revocable living trust?
- GETTING AROUND: Can the DMV simply limit my driving rights rather than revoke my license? Are there any special accommodations for me if I am disabled or unable to drive?
- HANDLING ELDER ABUSE: What should I do if I suspect someone is abusing or exploiting an elderly friend? What can I do to protect myself from an abusive caregiver or spouse?
- AVOIDING CONSUMER SCAMS: How can I avoid being solicited by telemarketers and marketing mail? What is identity theft?
- GETTING DIVORCED OR REMARRIED: Will I continue to receive Social Security benefits as a widow (or widower) if I remarry?
- RAISING YOUR GRANDCHILDREN: Should I seek guardianship of my grandchildren if I am raising them? Do I have any right to visit my grandchildren?

To order Seniors & the Law: A Guide for maturing Californians, send an e-mail to seniors@calbar.ca.gov. Include your name, complete mailing address (post office boxes are not acceptable), the preferred number of copies in which languages, and a daytime phone number. If you do not have access to e-mail, you can call 1-888-875-LAWS (5297) for mailing instructions. There is no charge for the guides. However, contributions are appreciated and do help support the State Bar’s public education program.

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UC RIVERSIDE GETS NATIONAL RATING BOOST
Washington Monthly College Guide gives UCR high marks.

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — UC Riverside is ranked No. 22 among the nation’s universities and colleges by Washington Monthly College Guide. Instead of looking at student SAT scores and grade-point averages, the magazine’s editors asked, “What are colleges doing for the country? Are they engines of social mobility? Do they foster scientific and humanistic research?”

When those questions were answered, many of the schools listed at the top of the U.S. News and World Report rankings fell and UC Riverside rose. Harvard, ranked No. 1 by U.S. News, dropped to No. 28 on Washington Monthly’s list. Not only was Riverside ranked in the top 25 among the nation’s colleges and universities, but its ranking rose more than any other school under Washington Monthly’s criteria.

“We’ve always felt that our mission — carried out through classroom instruction, scientific and humanistic research and community outreach — has been to make a significant contribution to the people of the state of California,” said UC Riverside Chancellor France Cordova. “It is gratifying to see that effort recognized nationally.”

The University of California, Riverside is a major research institution. Key areas of research include nanotechnology, health science, genomics, environmental studies, digital arts and sustainable growth and development.

With a current undergraduate and graduate enrollment of more than 16,000, the campus is projected to grow to 21,000 students by 2010. Located in the heart of Inland Southern California, the nearly 1,200-acre, park-like campus is at the center of the region’s economic development.

Visit www.ucr.edu or call 951-UCR-NEWS for more information.

News Media Contact:

BOYSCOUTS OF AMERICA TO HOLD 4TH ANNUAL SCOUTREACH GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sign up for the 4th Annual Golf Tournament, a benefit to under-privileged boys served at the Boy Scouts of America’s Fourth Annual Scouthrough Tournament, on Monday, September 18, 2006, at victory Country Club, Riverside, California. This includes lunch, dinner, a fabulous tee prize all contests, and a ton of fun. Reserve your spot with either Visa or MasterCard. Make your reservation today, as space is limited! Many boys are able to get their uniforms and registration. Individual entries are $225 per player and $900 per foursome. Make your reservation today, as space is limited! Many boys are able to get their uniforms and registration. Individual entries are $225 per player and $900 per foursome. $100 of the playing fee can be tax deductible. Each player will have a chance to win a Gentlemen’s Rolex watch and other exciting prizes. For reservation call Reggie Bernard at (909) 435-6858 or send an email to rbernard@basemail.org.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

CCEAJ invites the community to participate in a community summit for the 2nd district of Riverside County on August 30, 2006, at the Jurupa Community Center, 4810 Pedley Rd, Riverside, at 6:30 P.M.

The purpose of the meeting is for people to interrelate in the community; share community concerns; learn what CCEAJ is doing to improve the environment; and collectively build community power.

For more information call at (951) 360-5950.

Wednesday, August 23, 2006

ARMC BURN CENTER RECEIVES DONATION

Riverside County firefighters donated $15,000 to the Inland Counties Regional Burn Center at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC).

The funds were raised April 20 during the Riverside County Firefighters’ Golf Association’s Eighth Annual Golf Tournament at Menifee Lakes Country Club. The tournament was sponsored by the Riverside County Fire Department and Riverside California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

The fire agencies have raised and donated more than $100,000 to the Burn Center in eight years.

Funds raised will be used to help send children who are burn victims to winter camp in the San Bernardino area. The Burn Center provides a safe, specialized environment that enables young burn victims to continue to recover once they leave the Burn Center.

“We are extremely grateful for this donation from the Riverside County Firefighters’ Golf Association and for its unending support of our Burn Center and the patients it serves,” said ARMc Medical Director Dr. Dev GnanaDev.

The Inland Counties Regional Burn Center is the only major burn center serving the counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, Mono and Inyo. It is licensed for 14 beds. Approximately one-third of the patients in the Burn Center are children. The Burn Center treats approximately 500 patients annually.

TEACHERS AND PARENTS ARE INVITED TO EDTECH CONFERENCE

San Bernardino City Unified School District and California State University, San Bernardino are sponsoring the Second Annual EdTech Conference November 4, 2006.

Kindergarten through high school teachers, administrators, university educators, parents, and anyone who is interested in educational technology are encouraged to attend this event.

The conference will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in University Hall at California State University, San Bernardino.

Presentations by local educators and vendor exhibits will focus on the best practices for integrating technology in education and provide updates on the latest technological developments. The conference will also feature multimedia projects created by local students and door prizes for attendees.

A free lunch will be provided to those who pre-register before October 22, 2006. To register or for more information, visit http://apat10.org or call Kathy Gerry, project specialist, at (951) 826-6326.

HEALTHY IDEAS

(NAPS) - According to NARSAD, with appropriate treatment, symptoms of schizophrenia can usually be controlled, and most people with the illness can lead productive and fulfilling lives. Treatment is believed to be most effective when begun early in the course of the illness. For more information, log on to www.narsad.org.
NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY
TO REDUCE UNDERAGE DRINKING

Charles G. Curie, Administrator
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Alcohol is the most widely used substance of abuse among America's youth. A higher percentage of young people, ages 12 to 20, use alcohol (29 percent) than use tobacco (24 percent) or illicit drugs (14 percent), making underage drinking a leading public health problem in the United States. A new national effort to encourage parents to speak with their children about this critical problem is under way. Some people find it hard to believe that by the time they reach eighth grade, 41 percent of adolescents have had at least one drink, and almost 20 percent report having been drunk. It's also a fact that adults who had first used alcohol before age 15 are five times more likely to report dependence on or abuse of alcohol than adults who first used it at age 21 or older. In addition to its negative impact on health, alcohol use among youth is strongly correlated with violence, risky sexual behavior, poor academic performance, driving incidents and other harmful behaviors.

Yet many parents do not see drinking as a top-of-mind issue. To help bring this issue to the forefront, a new campaign is encouraging parents to speak with their children about the negative effects of alcohol to delay the onset of, and ultimately to prevent, underage drinking.

The campaign, developed in partnership with the Ad Council, is aimed at the parent of middle schoolers, particularly those whose children have not started drinking. Parents need to realize they have more influence over their children than they may know. Sure, kids spend a lot of time with friends, television, music, magazines and the Web. But they are also tuned in to what their parents say and do. Parents' disapproval of underage alcohol use is one of the key reasons youths choose not to drink. Underage drinking is not inevitable.

For too long underage drinking has been accepted as a rite of passage. Far too many young people, along with their friends and families, have paid the price. Any use of alcohol for teens involves risk—any use, not just binge drinking or drinking and driving. Alcohol can affect the developing adolescent brain. And we've learned the earlier a person is introduced to alcohol, the greater the chances are that that person will develop an alcohol problem in his or her youth and/or adulthood.

We must change attitudes toward teen drinking from acceptance to abstinence and recognize the importance of parents talking to their children early and often about alcohol, especially before they've started drinking. We must replace an environment that all too often enables underage alcohol use with an environment that discourages it.

Children need information to make good decisions. Don't wait until a problem arises to talk with them about drinking alcohol. Be sure to talk with them about the law, how alcohol affects the body, and how peer pressure can sometimes make it difficult to do the right thing. Discuss your personal beliefs with your children. Sharing your values and family history regarding alcohol helps create an environment of trust and understanding.

Get involved in your community and your child's school.

For more information, including tips on talking with your children about alcohol, or to order the free booklet "Start Talking Before They Start Drinking," visit www.stopalcoholabuse.gov or call 1-800-729-6686.

SAMHSA, a public health agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the lead federal agency for improving the quality and availability of substance abuse prevention, addiction treatment and mental health services in the United States.

STRATEGIES FOR EDUCATING THE LATINO STUDENT

The Association of Mexican American Educators will hold its statewide conference on November 2-4 at the Ontario Airport Marriott. The theme will be "Increasing Equity in Education: Strategies for Educating the Latino Student."

A myriad of speakers are scheduled to speak, including Dr. Arturo Delgado, San Bernardino City School District Superintendent, who will present information designed to improve the learning experience for Latino students. Visit www.amae.org/stateconference/ to learn more and to register for the AMAE conference.

NEW ROUTE 210 BRIDGE TO LINK
EASTON STREET, HIGHLAND AVENUE

The Highland Avenue bridge over Route 210 will provide a new connection between Easton Street and Highland Avenue in Rialto, starting in mid-September. This new, permanent street alignment will provide local access for residents and businesses and will be used by commuters until the freeway opens in late 2007. Please drive safely through the area.

For more information, call the Route 210 Helpline: 1-866-HELP-210 ¡Se habla español!

NUEVO PUENTE EN LA RUTA 210 PARA UNIR LA CALLE EASTON Y LA AVENIDA HIGHLAND

El puente de la avenida Highland sobre la Ruta 210 proporcionará una nueva conexión entre la calle Easton y la avenida Highland en Rialto, a partir de mediados de septiembre. Este nuevo y permanente alineamiento de la calle proveerá acceso local para los residentes y negocios. De igual forma será usado por los viajeros hasta que se abra la autopista a finales de 2007. Por favor conduzca con precaución en esta área.

Para recibir más información, llame a la línea de asistencia de la Ruta 210: 1-866-HELP-210
State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell and California State Secretary of Education Alan Bersin will headline a distinguished list of speakers scheduled to appear at the Fourth Annual Riverside County Education Summit October 12-13 in Indian Wells.

More than 300 educators, parents, and community leaders are expected to attend the Summit, which was created by Dr. David Long, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, and is sponsored this year by the Riverside County Office of Education and Altura Credit Union.

The Summit is designed to bring together individuals in order to build relationships and collectively focus on strategies to improve achievement for all students, enhance services to districts and schools, and increase public awareness of educational issues at the national, state and local levels.

Participating this year will be: Barbara Kerr, President, California Teachers Association; Scott Plotkin, Executive Director, California School Boards Association; and Brenda Davis, President, California State Parent-Teacher Association.

Workshops will include: Williams Lawsuit Settlement Update, presented by Brooks Allen, Attorney, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU); Focus on Preschool, presented by Wei-min Wang, Program Officer, Packard Foundation; and Raymond Lewis, Vice President, Lewis Operating Corporation; School Safety, presented by William Modzeleski, Associate Assistant Deputy Secretary, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools; Legislation, presented by Kevin Gordon, School Intervention; and Student Achievement, presented by Sue Stickel, Deputy Superintendent, California Department of Education.

Riverside County educators will present a panel discussion on “The Myriad of Challenges.” A special awards luncheon will be honoring Jim Brulte, former California State Senator.

For more information on the event, please call Tracey Rivas, 951-826-6570. Registration information is online at www.rcoe.us.

The Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is a service agency supporting the county’s 23 school districts and linking them with the California Department of Education. RCOE services include:

- administrative support to districts;
- programs for 60,000 preschool, special education, pregnant minor, correctional, migrant and vocational students;
- professional training, support and resources for teachers, administrators and staff.

LEARNING TO SUCCEED ON YOUR OWN TERMS

(NAPS) - What three things do the world’s most successful people share in common? They have their own definition of success, they know the personality qualities that drive them, and they’ve seized their defining moments.

That’s the idea in a new book that examines the personality traits of successful people across the globe. The book’s authors say the lessons learned can help people succeed in their careers and in life.

Written by Herb Greenberg and Patrick Sweeney—who have advised more than 25,000 companies in the areas of hiring, employee development, team building and organizational development—“Succeed on Your Own Terms” (McGraw-Hill, $21.95) offers readers practical tips and advice.

The book provides an in-depth look at more than four dozen talented individuals who have made their marks in business, politics, sports, the arts and global affairs. It also offers readers the chance to complete a free, in-depth personality profile (worth over $200) to help focus their energies on specific fields or goals. According to the book, successful people know that:

- Real success comes from recognizing, understanding, developing and concentrating on one’s strengths. According to Paul Schultz, the youngest U.S. Olympic wheelchair basketball player at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, that means “focusing on what you have, rather than what you don’t have.”
- Being self-aware means not letting the outside world define you and knowing what motivates you. For instance, Rebecca Stephens, the first British woman to climb Mount Everest, says, “Success is the achievement of whatever it is that you set out to do. And it’s up to you to decide what that is. It can’t be determined by anyone else.”
- Being willing to risk means being all right with the possibilities. Senator Barbara Boxer says she doesn’t always succeed if that only means accomplishing what she wants. “I can feel successful just moving my agenda forward,” she explains.
- When you love what you do, people can sense it in your presence.

Reading the book’s success stories will help people gain a new perspective—one that can be useful when striving for success in their own lives.

For more information, visit www.biabuild.com or www.OnYourOwnTerms.com.
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