

2-23-2005

February 23rd 2005

Hispanic News

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Hispanic News, "February 23rd 2005" (2005). *Hispanic News*. Paper 479.
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Wednesday, February 23, 2005
Volume 18
Number 12



HISPANIC NEWS

The Inland Empire's only Hispanic-owned English language newspaper

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Ontario • Corona • Bloomington • Rancho Cucamonga • Highland

ASSEMBLYMAN JOE BACA, JR. ANNOUNCES LOCAL APPOINTMENTS



Loraine Velarde, newly appointed chief of staff, Assemblyman Joe Baca, Jr's district office. Photo by IEHN



Raphael Trujillo, field representative, Assemblyman Joe Baca Jr's district office. Photo by IEHN



Channing Hawkins, field representative, Assemblyman Joe Baca, Jr's district office. Photo by IEHN

Joe Baca, Jr., Assemblyman, 62nd Assembly District, recently announced the staff appointments to his local assembly district office which includes the cities of San Bernardino, Rialto, (portions of) Fontana and unincorporated areas of Bloomington and Muscoy.

"I have selected outstanding individuals to represent my office and serve the constituency in our district, with Loraine Velarde as chief of staff, Rafael Trujillo and Channing Hawkins as field representatives to offer assistance to residents of available resources at the state level. Mr. Trujillo and Mr. Channing will also

Continued on page 5

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS ADOLFO MEDIANO, JR. TO VACANCY



Adolfo Mediano, Jr. was appointed by the Riverside County Board of Education to replace Dr. Milo P. Johnson, who passed away. Mediano, Jr. is the first Hispanic to serve on the RCBE. Photo courtesy of RCOE

The Riverside County Board of Education at a special meeting on February 16, 2005 appointed Adolfo Mediano, Jr., to replace Trustee Area 5 member Dr. Milo P. Johnson, who passed away on December 25, 2004.

Mediano, a supervising probation officer based in Indio, will serve until June 30, 2006. An election for the member of Trustee Area 5 will be held June 6, 2006, for the remaining two years of the four-year term which expires in 2008.

Trustee Area 5 includes the school districts of Banning, Beaumont, Palm Springs, and a portion of the Moreno Valley Unified School District. The board interviewed six applicants.

Mediano, a Banning native, said he had great appreciation for Dr. Johnson. Continued on page 4

LOCAL BATTALION RETURNS TO S. B.



Sgt. Robert Jimenez of Corona, a member of the 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, was part of the 200 members of the California Army National Guard that recently arrived in San Bernardino. At left, son Shawn 7, proudly hugging his father, wife Greelda, daughter Shawna 14, and sleeping in the car, Krista 3, and Lianna 23 months. Sgt. Jimenez is planning to reenlist in the National Guard. Photo by IEHN

S.B SHERIFF PROMOTES TWO TO EXECUTIVE STAFF



Captain James Coronado, left and Captain Edward Ripley, newly promoted to Deputy Chiefs of the Sheriff's Department executive management team. See article on page 2. Photo by IEHN

After serving a 14-month tour of duty in Iraq, 200 members of the 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, California Army National Guard, based in San Bernardino, arrived

amidst cheering crowd of spouses, children, mothers and fathers and many relatives, showing a sense of gratitude for their sacrifice and en-

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SUPREME COURT JUSTICE KENNEDY DEDICATES ANNENBERG WING AT CSUSB'S PALM DESERT CAMPUS



U. S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy Photo courtesy CSUSB

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy visited the Palm Desert Campus of California State University, San Bernardino February 11 to dedicate the Annenberg Wing of the campus' new Indian Wells Center for Educational Excellence. The jurist met privately with university students in a closed session, which he described as "remarkably invigorating." In his speech to a later public session, he said that higher education is the key to promoting liberty and democracy.

"We must do more to preserve the idea of freedom, of democracy. That's

why we are here this day," Kennedy told a capacity audience of 300 at the Indian Wells Theater. "An enlightened citizenry is a precondition for democracy," Kennedy said. "That's why this school completes this community."

The Indian Wells Center, including the theater and the education building, is the second permanent complex to be erected on the campus. It joins the Mary Stuart Rogers Gateway Building, which opened in 2002. Leonore Annenberg, widow of the late Walter Annenberg, attended the dedication ceremony, and received congratulations for their \$3 million gift toward the center's construction.

The Annenberg wing houses campus' teacher education programs. "This will provide the next generation of teachers and counselors that are so needed," said CSU San Bernardino President Albert Karnig. The university's Palm Desert campus is the first state university to be built with private, foundation and local city funding.

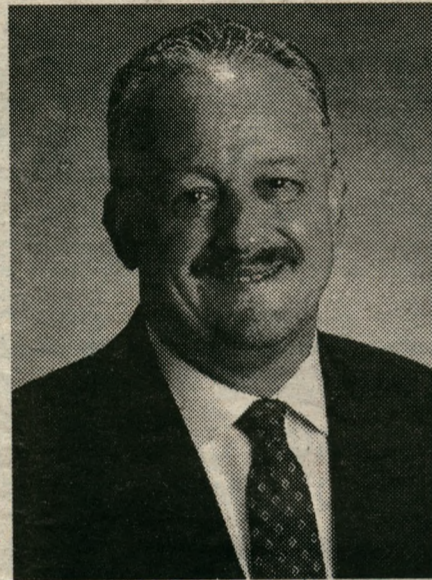
Rep. Mary Bono, R-Palm Springs, and Assemblyman John Benoit, R-Palm Desert, also spoke at the ceremony. Benoit, a CSUSB alumnus, received his master's degree in public administration in the early 1990s at the university's temporary campus, then housed at the College of the Desert.

NEW BILINGUAL PICTURE BOOK CELEBRATES THE CHERISHED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GRANDPARENTS & GRANDCHILDREN

Samuel Caraballo's ode to family, *Mis abuelos y yo / My Grandparents and I* (Arte Público Press; \$14.95), depicts the special influence of a young boy's grandparents in his life. His voice rings as he catalogs the various ways his grandparents impact him. Through gentle verse, Caraballo strings the joys of this quiet relationship: weekends spent throwing parties in the kitchen with delectable desserts, strolls to the museums and historic sites, and sprinting through the spray of a water hose in the backyard.

Set in Puerto Rico, the story also pays homage to a unique childhood on the island, colored by descriptions of El Morro, the cruise-liners and big

CAL POLY POMONA NAMES CLAREMONT RESIDENT DR. TOMÁS MORALES PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



After a national search that identified numerous outstanding candidates, Cal Poly Pomona has selected Dr. Tomás Morales as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, effective immediately.

Morales has assumed the role of provost and vice president for academic affairs on an interim basis for the past two years. He made an im-

mediate impact in the position, enabling the university to move forward in some strategic areas, including enrollment management assessment and fiscal planning.

"Cal Poly Pomona is moving forward with some significant initiatives, including our development as a learning-centered university as well as a prioritization and recovery plan," said university President Michael Ortiz. "His experience as the former vice president of Student Affairs only enhances his ability to lead our academic community."

A resident of Claremont, Morales has served as an administrative leader and educator in higher education for over 25 years. He was previously Cal Poly Pomona's Vice President for Student Affairs. Prior to that, he served as Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students for the City College of New York, flagship institution of the City University of New York.

S.B SHERIFF PROMOTES TWO TO EXECUTIVE STAFF

San Bernardino County Sheriff Gary Penrod announced the promotion of Captain James Coronado and Captain Edward Ripley to the rank of deputy chiefs, the county's law enforcement's top level executive management team.

"As a result of recent retirements of our executive management, I have appointed two law enforcement officers to become part of our management team, with added major division responsibilities. Their vast experiences, past performances and strong leadership will enhance our management of future operations in the department," stated Penrod.

Captain James Coronado, a 28-year sheriff law enforcement officer, has an established experience in the varied divisions within the department. First assigned as a deputy sheriff stationed in the Upper Desert in 1977, he has since been promoted through the ranks comparable with added responsibilities and assignments to a myriad of special task forces and administrative responsibilities in the department.

Coronado was promoted to lieutenant in 1995, and assigned to command the Victor Valley, Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center, and the Victorville station. In 2001, he was promoted to captain in charge of the Hesperia station.

Coronado has been active in community affairs. Former member of the San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Hi Desert Mariachi Group, and past president of the Hi Desert Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He was the recipient of the prestigious Inland Empire Image Award-Law Enforcement Category, and other awards. He attended San Bernardino Valley College and the University of Arizona-Tucson.

Captain Edward Ripley began his law enforcement career as a deputy sheriff in 1980, with various assignments: Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center, central jail, and the Victorville station. As a senior deputy, he was assigned as an investigator in the Victorville station. Promoted to sergeant in 1988, Ripley worked in the Hesperia station, Bureau of Administration and Employee Development Division. In 1991, he was promoted to lieutenant, assigned to Monrongo station, Information Division, and Apple Valley station.

In 1996, he was promoted to captain and assigned to the Apple Valley station, West Valley Detention Center, and Adelanto station, prior to his recent promotion. He received an AA from Mt. San Antonio College, and is a member of the Footprinters Association.

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The Inland Empire Hispanic News is owned and operated by the Hispanic Communication and Development Corporation.

Publisher/Editor - Graciano Gomez
Office Manager - Trini Gomez
Design/Layout - Charla Paszkiewicz
Accounts Analyst - Stella Salazar
Bulk Mail Distribution - Ray Abril
Distribution - Art Ramos

Writers - Pauline Jaramillo
- Esperanza Allende
- Angela Vasquez

The Inland Empire Hispanic News is published every two weeks and distributed in San Bernardino, Riverside, Colton, Rialto, Fontana, Moreno Valley, Ontario, Corona, Bloomington, Rancho Cucamonga, Highland & Redlands. You may subscribe or advertise by contacting the office.

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HEAD OF THE INLAND EMPIRE'S FIRST TV NETWORK CONTRIBUTOR TO NEW BOOK



LOS ANGELES, Calif. - Cynthia Pringle, executive director of the Inland California Television Network, the Inland Empire's first television network, is one of 41 women entrepreneurs whose expert chapter is featured in the newly released book: *Inspiration to Realization: Real Women Reveal Proven Strategies For Business, Personal, Spiritual and Financial Fulfillment*.

UCR RECEPTION FOR TOMÁS RIVERA ENDOWMENT CHAIRPERSON

UCR Government and Public Relations, in sponsorship with Latino Network, Sinfonia Mexicana, Esperanza Scholarship Foundation and Human Relations Commission invites the public to a welcome reception for Juan Felipe Herrera, the Tomás Rivera Endowment Chair and professor, UCR, at the Riverside City Hall on March 3rd at the Mayor's Ceremonial Room, 7th floor, at 5:30 PM.

During the last three decades Professor Herrera has received awards and fellowships including National Writers Fellowships, four California Arts Council grants, Regents Fellowship, the Breadloaf Fellowship in Poetry, and the Chicano Fellows Fellowship, Ezra Jack Keats Award of Distinction, among others.

The legendary Tomás Rivera, born in a family of migrant workers in Crystal City, Texas in 1935, was a prolific writer, received his Ph.D. in Romance Literature, and became Executive Vice President of the University of Texas, El Paso. He was appointed Chancellor at UCR in 1979, becoming the first Mexican-American to hold the position in the UC system. He had a fatal heart attack in May 16, 1984.

RSVP at (951) 827-5184 by February 28th.

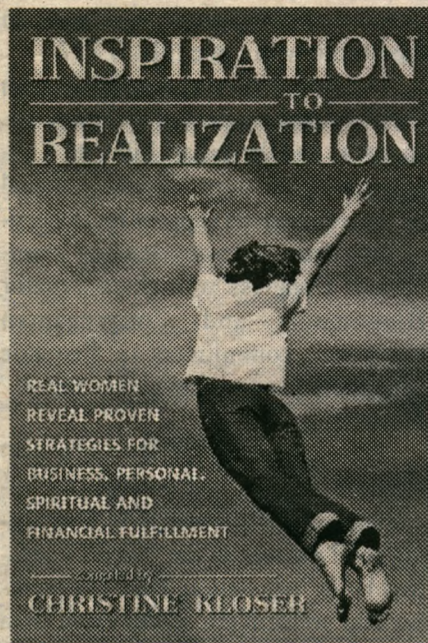
Compiled by Christine Kloser, *Inspiration to Realization* offers a master plan for personal and professional breakthroughs and summits. Divided into three sections - spirituals, personal, and business/financial - the topics covered includes:

- Five ways to tune into your intuition and trust your soul
- Two tips to attract a successful romantic relationship
- How to take care of yourself... first
- A nine-step process for creating the life of your dreams
- Simple methods for reducing stress
- Seven tools to design and manifest a balanced, and fulfilling life

Pringle contributed Chapter 36 entitled: Listening to Your Spirit: Accepting Guidance from Within. The chapter is an overview of the lessons Pringle learned in her career in communication management, with the most recent experience being tied to the creation and launching of the Inland California Television Network (ICTN).

ICTN, which debuted in November 2003, is a publicly supported, community-based television network established and managed by Cal State San Bernardino, in partnership with 15 local municipal governments in San Bernardino County.

The network offers the only live nightly news program, which focuses on news in the San Bernardino-Riverside county region. The news is cablecast live Monday-Friday on



Channel 3 at 10 p.m. and repeated at 10:30 p.m. and re-broadcast at 11 p.m. on KVCR-TV, Channel 24, which reaches satellite, off-air and cable viewers for a potential audience of 4 million throughout the Southland and Palm Desert area.

Pringle, who became ICTN's executive director in July 2002, began her career in communications as a radio and newspaper reporter in Wisconsin. She moved into on-camera work for KCSB-TV3, KVCR-TV and Time Warner in Palm Desert as part of her 13 years as the Director of Public Affairs for Cal State, San Bernardino.

She is the award-winning host of Job Connection, a job development program that ran on TV3 in San Bernardino for five years. Pringle has

held leadership posts for various civic organizations, including the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce, the Inland Empire Symphony Guild and Santa Claus, Inc., among others.

A resident of San Bernardino, she has two grown daughters who also live and attend school in the area. Pringle holds a BA in mass communication from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a degree in psychology and marketing management from Cal State, San Bernardino.

Like a symphony of self-accomplished female professionals, *Inspiration to Realization* authors reflect a varied group of successful artists, business owners, life coaches, consultants, CEOs, TV executives, inventors, and psychologists. They are also thriving individuals, girlfriends, wives, mothers, daughters, grandmothers, and sisters.

The book's premise holds that women collectively share in the pursuit of a vibrant, well-rounded life. Yet, an overemphasis on career and business endeavors while shortchanging personal or family matters carries a profound unseen cost. Conversely, if an individual's focus strays too far into the spiritual at the expense of long-term financial consideration, then true freedom becomes fleeting. This book is simply about having it all.

Inspiration to Realization can be purchased online for \$19.95 (plus tax and shipping) at www.inspirationto realization.com.

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HACU PRAISES INTRODUCTION OF TWO HISPANIC GRADUATE EDUCATION BILLS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) praised the introduction in Congress this week of two Hispanic graduate education bills to meet the advanced education needs of the nation's youngest and largest ethnic population.

"The 109th Congress is being asked to make an investment in graduate education at those colleges and universities which serve the largest concentrations of Hispanic students. We applaud the tenacious leadership of Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico and Congressman Ruben Hinojosa of Texas for re-introducing these important bills," said HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores.

"This legislation will benefit all of us in providing the nation's Hispanics, who currently make up one of every three new workers joining the workforce, the advanced knowledge and skills so necessary to our nation's future economic success, security and global leadership," Flores said.

Congressman Hinojosa, chair of Education Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, on Thursday introduced the "Next Generation on Hispanic-Serving Institutions" bill, HR 761, which would also enhance existing undergraduate programs at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, or HSIs. The nation's more than 240 HSIs have

a student enrollment that is at least 25 percent Hispanic. Senator Bingaman introduced companion legislation in the Senate with same title, S 357.

The House bill was introduced with the bipartisan support of 80 House co-sponsors and the Senate bill with 5 co-sponsoring Senators. "We are gratified by the tremendous support for this legislation from so many leading members of Congress who share Senator Bingaman's and Congressman Hinojosa's commitment to Hispanic educational access and achievement," Flores said.

The leadership of HACU's 400 member colleges and universities, including HSIs has joined HACU in urging swift passage of the "Next Generation HSIs" legislation. HACU's membership collectively serves more than two-thirds of the nation's 1.6 million Hispanic higher education students.

The bills would authorize \$125 million in new federal spending each year on graduate education enhancements beginning in federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 by adding a new graduate education component to Title V of the Higher Education on Act (HEA).

"Although Hispanics make up over 12 percent of doctoral degrees and 5 percent of first professional degrees. These bills directly address the need to increase the numbers of under-represented Hispanics in the fields of

teaching, science, engineering, medicine and technology that demand advanced degrees," Flores said. "This legislation will build a better future for all of us."

The "Next Generation HSIs" bills would also enhance undergraduate education for HSIs by providing important amendments to Title V of the Act as part of the reauthorization of the HEA now under way in Congress. Reauthorization will determine federal spending priorities for all higher education institutions for the Act's next five-year cycle.

"For Hispanics, who suffer the lowest high school and college graduation rates of any major population group, the 'Next Generation' bills provide comprehensive support to substantially increase the numbers of Hispanic Americans obtaining undergraduate and graduate degrees," Flores said.

In addition to providing a new graduate program support, the bills would increase the funding authorization level for undergraduate education at HSIs to \$175 million under Title V of the HEA, beginning in FY 2006. Undergraduate Title V appropriation for HSIs for FY 2005 totaled \$95.1 million.

Since more than half of all Hispanic higher education students now attend two-year community colleges, the bills would allow Title V funds for the first time to be used for articula-

tion support programs to ease the transfer of two year students to four-year colleges and universities.

The bills would also reduce regulatory burdens now hampering the efforts of many HSIs to obtain competitive Title V grants. The bills would eliminate the two-year wait-out period between applications for Title V grants and also eliminate the 50 percent low-income assurance requirement from the federal definition of HSIs.

"Although HSIs are at the forefront of every major effort to serve the fastest-growing college-age population, HSIs on average receive only about half the funding per student accorded to all other degree-granting institutions. These bills comprehensively address this inequity," Flores said.

During the last HEA reauthorization cycle seven years ago, Congressman Hinojosa introduced the "Higher Education for the 21st Century Act." Passage of that Act led to new recognition for the National role of HSIs in higher education under a new Title V of the HEA, as well as substantial new multi-million dollars annual Title V appropriations for HSIs in every subsequent year.

For more information, contact HACU's national headquarters in San Antonio, Texas at (210) 692-3805. Ext. 107. Contact HACU's Washington, D.C., offices at (202) 833-836, or visit www.hacu.net.

STATE FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE: ASSEMBLYWOMAN GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD NAMED LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

The California State Firefighter's Association honored Assemblymember Gloria Negrete McLeod Tuesday, Feb. 15, at a legislative reception in Sacramento after naming her Legislator of the Year.

The Assemblywoman was recognized for introducing multiple bills related to improving the provision of fire suppression services in California, CSFA president Kevin Nida said.

"Gloria McLeod has been a staunch proponent of public safety. She also has demonstrated strong support for firefighters, the men and women who risk their own lives in their efforts to keep the public safe," Nida said.

The California State Firefighters' Association named Negrete McLeod, whose 61st Assembly District includes

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS ADOLFO MEDIANO, JR. TO VACANCY

Continued from page 1



Riverside County Board of Education unanimously approved the appointment of Adolfo Mediano, Jr. to the Board. (l to r) Gerald Colapinto, Betty Gibbel, Lisa Conyers, Lynne Craig (chair), William Kroonan, Vick Knight Jr., and David Long, RCOE Superintendent of schools. Photo by IEHN

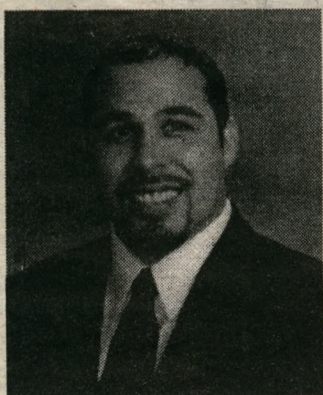
Johnson's long service to the board. "I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Riverside County Board of Education," he said. "I know I have some pretty big shoes to fill."

Mediano was born and raised in Banning. He graduated from Banning High School and earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of California, San Diego in 1978.

He was a group counselor at Twin Pines Ranch in 1987 and became a deputy probation officer in 1989. He is now a supervising probation officer

in Indio. Mediano is married and has two children.

Mediano served nine years on the Banning Unified School District Board of Trustees and was appointed to one year on the Banning City Council. He is a member of the California Probation, Parole and Correctional Officers Association, Toastmasters Club #8396, Coachella Valley Baseball Association, Coachella Valley Football Officials Association, and has been involved in the Banning Youth Center.



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ASSEMBLYMAN JOE BACA, JR. ANNOUNCES LOCAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued from page 1

visit groups and individuals to become appraised of problem areas and needs in our communities, and resolve through our office, and Valentina Morales as our office secretary," stated Assemblyman Baca, Jr.

Raised in San Bernardino, Loraine Velarde graduated from Saint Bernardine High School and San Bernardino Community College. After college, Velarde worked for several law firms in the area: Kearney and Eckhardt; Kearney, Miller, and Conners; and Sheldon Penn.

In 1980, Mayor Bob Holcombe later hired Velarde as chief of staff. When Evelyn Wilcox became mayor, she transferred to the economic development department, working for four years. After Bob Holcombe was re-elected for mayor, Velarde was re-hired as chief of staff and continued in the same position during the tenure of Mayor Minor until 1998.

Velarde moved to Sacramento and worked for Electronic Data Services three years as director of training and community relations.

She returned to San Bernardino due to family illness, and volunteered in the Josie Gonzales Campaign for 5th District Supervisor.

"San Bernardino is my home town and I have interacted with many in our business, social and political community. This experience will be an added advantage for me to serve our constituents in the 62nd Assembly District."

Rafael Trujillo, II, born to Rafael and Rafaela Trujillo, in Corona, fourth in a family of two sisters, Lorena and Juanita and brother Miguel. His father, a factory worker and mother, a homemaker, both taught their children the attributes of hard work, respect for others, the value of higher education and family traditions.

At Centennial High School, Trujillo became involved in civic, political and Chicano activities. He graduated second in a class of 503, with a 4.6 grade point average!

He enrolled at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut in 1998. "I was the youngest in the family and I

wanted a little independence and ability to expand in a different environment," he said, very straightforwardly.

At Yale, in addition to his studies, Trujillo was involved as a legislative intern with Congresswoman Diana DeGette, Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund (in Los Angeles), Jerome Frank Legal Services, Professor Owen Fiss of Yale Law School, and Latino Cultural Center at Yale, UFW (at Yale), among other political, social justice, immigration, and myriad of school activities. He graduated from Yale with a BA in History, Minor in Ethnicity, Race, and Immigration.

Trujillo campaigned for Al Gore (for president), Sarah Reyes, Tony Cardenas, Joey Acuña, Denise Ducheny and Joe Baca, Jr. He served as field representative for Assemblywoman Sarah Reyes.

Trujillo has received many accolades, the California Assembly Resolution for Service (31st Assembly District), Fresno County Office of Education Commendation for Contribution to Education, Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, Yale University History Department Research Fellowship, and Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Internship Program Award, among others.

"I am appreciative of my parents dedication to the family, their hard work and to instill in us those attributes of tradition, work ethic and service to others. I am dedicated to work for my community," Trujillo said.

Born in Carson, California, Channing Hawkins attended Etiwanda High School, and played football. "At times, I had difficulty in focusing in my studies in school. Fortunately for me, I had my family who guided me, my mother and fa-

ther, Wanda and Michael Jackson, Uncle Nathaniel Spamm, and my grandfather Art Jackson." He graduated from high school in 1996.

He enrolled at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Hawkins became immediately involved in voter registration in North and South Carolinas. "This experience in these battleground states gave me an insight into what are the biggest needs in the communities and a greater determination for involvement," Hawkins said.

Hawkins became interested in the teaching profession and history, with an emphasis in West African history and education policies at the local level.

He also became involved in school and outside university activities: Pan Hellenic Council, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, director of the College Democrats, director of Operation Vote Bison, co-founder of Operation Hope, chairperson, Brother to Brother Youth Conference, and mentor, Campus Pals, Cesar Chavez Public Charter School for Public Policy, and the Gore-Lieberman campaign. Hawkins graduated in 2001, with BS in History and Minor in Education.

He was on the Dean's List (semester honors), and the President's Service Award.

After graduation, Hawkins worked for the People for the American Way, NAACP, SEIU-AFL-CIO, and Kerry-Edwards campaign.

"My future goal is to become an attorney and I will focus my efforts toward that career goal," he said.

Assemblyman Joe Baca, Jr., office is at 201 North "E" Street, San Bernardino, CA 92401, telephone (909) 388-1413.

LULAC FIGHTS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY LULAC Calls for Reform Not Elimination

WASHINGTON, DC - The league of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is troubled about the Bush Administration's plans to privatize Social Security. According to a recent survey by AARP Latinos are very concerned about a secure retirement and believe that Social Security should be reformed not eliminated.

"AARP's findings demonstrate that Hispanics overwhelmingly want to keep Social Security in its current form with modifications where necessary," said Dr. Gabriela Lemus, LULAC National Director of Policy and Legislation. Sixty-two percent of Hispanics believe that private accounts will hurt Social Security.

The vast majority of Hispanics believe Social Security should be strengthened, not replaced. The changes, however, should be made now. According to the survey, nearly nine in ten Hispanics (85%) reported that changes should be made sooner rather than later to avoid more severe impacts on the community.

The Hispanic community has an enormous stake in this debate. According to information from the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 75 percent of Latinos aged 65 or older receive income from Social Security but only 15 percent have income from pensions or annuities and 28 percent have income from assets. Over three-quarters of these individuals are reliant on Social Security for half or more of their total income. Almost half rely on Social Security for 90 percent or more of their total income. The overall num-

bers increase even more for non-married Hispanic men and women, particularly unmarried Latinas: 83 percent rely on Social Security for 50 percent or more of their total income.

The numbers are clear, the Latino population over 65 years of age is heavily reliant on Social Security and according to the U.S. Bureau of Census, without it, 33 percent of older Hispanics would fall into poverty. As it stands, approximately 22 percent of older Latinos are living in poverty. "Without Social Security, the numbers would definitely increase placing additional burdens on their families and diminishing their sense of independence," added Lemus.

Lastly, every dollar diverted to private accounts will add a dollar to public borrowing. Current estimates state that the government would have to borrow anywhere from \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion to create private accounts. It is estimated that in the first decade \$6 trillion would be added to the public debt. "Unfortunately, it will be young Latinos and Latinas, among other young people, who will have to foot the bill," Lemus concluded.

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition educational attainment, political influence, health, and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs run by more than 700 LULAC councils nationwide.

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Paula Parzonko

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Betti Cadmus
Renee Copley
Loraine Hair
Gary Winn
Learn and Earn
Shieneka Gordon

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Molly Hambly
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Norm Kelley
Pat Kelley
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Christine Mills
Dennis Martin
Kevin McGinty
Roberta Niebla
Bob Palmer
Mary Ritchie
Jan Stockton-Miller
Jayne Sullivan
Bill Tally
Angela Traylor
Laura Vaughn
Leonard Wozniuk
Teri Yearry

Perris High School

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Karely Aguirre
Luis Arrengiun
Lessly Avila-Gastelum
Rosalba Contreras
Angelica Cota
Luciano Cruz
Edgar DeLeon
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Mayra Frias
Ivonne Gonzalez
Tania Gonzalez
Leticia Limon
Jessica Luna
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Dina Cuevas
Steve Nichols
Dale Cunningham
Carletta Loflin
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LOCAL BATTALION RETURNS TO S. B.

Continued from page 1

duration in a foreign war, grateful for the return of many, and knowledge of a few that did not.

Sgt. Robert Jimenez of Corona, described his service as not as dangerous as other units in Iraq. "We were stationed about 30 miles south of Baghdad, and although we were always careful in case of anything happening, the majority of our assignments were to build bridges, schools, waterways, roads and many other public projects to build their infrastructure and help the people return to some quality of life after all they went through," he said. He stated the Iraqis were very grateful for the work performed by the unit.

Jimenez said other duties consisted of providing security for bases

and convoy protection for trucks and vehicles throughout the region.

Although proud of serving in the Guard, and planning to reenlist, Jimenez is rejoicing in seeing his wife, Gricelda, Shawn 7, Shawna 14, and Krista 3, and Lianna 23 months, both small children napping in the car, unable to wait up for their father.

Jimenez' wife, Gricelda, is also very proud of her husband for his patriotism and sacrifice to serve his country. "He has always loved the service and aware of what he had to sacrifice," she said. Gricelda refused to comment on the decision of the President to go to war in Iraq.

Jimenez, a guard at the San Onofre Nuclear Facility, is planning to rest and enjoy his family.

STATE FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE: ASSEMBLYWOMAN GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD NAMED LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

Continued from page 4

Pomona, Ontario, Montclair and Chino, Legislator of the Year along with Assemblymember Rudy Bermudez, (D-Norwalk).

The California State Firefighters' Association is the oldest and largest firefighter association in California.

Dating back to 1922, CSFA has helped to improve working conditions for firefighters, and also worked for the betterment of the public in general. CSFA represents over 27,000 professional and volunteer firefighters throughout California.

NEW BILINGUAL PICTURE BOOK CELEBRATES THE CHERISHED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GRANDPARENTS & GRANDCHILDREN

Continued from page 2

freighters in the ocean, and frolicking in the sea with stingrays. The verses sparkle with this island song, flitting from the joys of the seaside to the cool nights under the stars.

Caraballo introduces the reader, aged 3 to 7, to a strong grandparent and grandchild relationship. Complemented by vibrant illustrations, this is a book to share with a child on a very special day.

SAMUEL CARABALLO is the author of *Estrellita se despide de su isla / Estrellita Says Goodbye to her Island* (Piñata Books, 2002), which was the winner of the 2002 Reading with Energy Hispanic Children's Literature Award. Caraballo was born in Vieques, a gorgeous, tiny island off the East Coast of Puerto Rico. He spent many of his childhood days playing in the countryside hills and picking mangos and guavas, his favorite tropical fruits. He has served as an interpreter for the courts in cases involving Hispanics. He has also dedicated many years to teaching Spanish in several public schools in the United States. He presently lives in Virginia with his family. He loves painting, fishing, and writing poetry.

D. DINA CRUZ holds a BFA from Paier College of Art in Connecticut. As

a young girl, she could always be found daydreaming or drawing – a combination that has led her to illustrate children's books. Her paintings reflect the places she has visited and her Latino culture. Nina lives in Northern New Jersey and enjoys spending time with her eleven nieces and nephews.

Arte Público Press is the nation's largest and most established publisher of contemporary and recovered literature by U. S. Hispanic authors. Its imprint for children and young adults, Piñata Books, is dedicated to the realistic and authentic portrayal of the themes, languages, characters, and customs of Hispanic culture in the United States. Books published under the imprint are designed to serve as a bridge from the home culture to that of the school, as well as to support family literacy and elementary school education. Based at the university of Houston, Arte Público Press, Piñata Books and the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage project provide the most widely recognized and extensive showcase for Hispanic literary arts and creativity.

For more information, please visit our website at www.artepublicopress.com.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/QUOTATIONS

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be accepted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 for the following:

P2005-21 Technical Advisor Services for the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) Closing Date: 3/8/05 2:00 p.m. Contact: Cynthia Ravenstein (909) 396-3269

Q2005-04 Temporary Employment Services Closing Date: 3/18/04 1:00 p.m. Contact: Maryann Gomez (909) 396-3232

Persons attending a bidder conference should confirm their attendance by calling the contact person. Bids will not be accepted from anyone not attending a mandatory bidder's conference.

The RFP/RFQs may be obtained through the Internet at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/rfp/>

If you have questions or would like a copy of the RFP/RFQ mailed to you, call the contact person.

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**LANET CELEBRATES 8TH ANNUAL
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Latino Network is celebrating the 8th Annual Celebración de la Mujer Luncheon at Zacatecas Café in Riverside. The event commemorates the contribution and accomplishments of Chicana/Latina in the Inland Empire. During the event, LaNet will be honoring six outstanding women who have demonstrated the commitment to their community.

LaNet would like to seek your assistance in the selection of the woman to be honored. by submitting a nomination in one of the following categories: education; business; culture/tradition; senior; youth; and public safety.

Nomination forms must be submitted no later than Friday, February 25, 2005. Mail or fax to Estella Acuña, UCR-Chicano Student Programs, 229 Costo Hall, UCR, Riverside, 92521 or fax to (951) 828-2189. For information call at (951) 827-3821.

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